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APRIL.

April has searched the winter land,
And found her petted flowers again:
She kissed them to unfold their leaves,
She coaxed them with her sun and rain,
And filled the grass with green content,
And made the weeds and clover vain.

Her fairies climbed the naked trees
And set green caps on every stalk;
Her primroses peep bashfully
From borders of the garden walk;
And in the reddened maple-tops
Her blackbird gossips all and talk.

She greets the patient evergreens,
She gets a store of ancient gold,
Gives tax-relief presents to the breeze,
And teaches rivers songs of old—
Then shakes the trees with stolen March winds,
And longs to hear the cuckoo scold.

Sometimes, to fret the sober sun,
She pulls the clouds across his face;
But finds a snow-drift in the woods,
Grows meek again, and prays his grace;
Waits till the last white wreath is gone,
And drops arbutus in the place.

Her crocuses and violets
Give all the world a gay "Good year!"
Tall trees grow tinged with green,
And get themselves a purple gear;
And tiny buds, that lie asleep
On hill and field, her coming hear.

She rocks the saucy meadow-cups;
The sunset's heart anew she dyes;
She fills the dusk of deepest woods
With sighs, sweet whispers and surprise;
And wakes the periwinkles up
To watch her walk with blue eyes.

At last she deems her work is done,
And finds a willow rocking-chair,
Dons spectacles of apple-buds,
Ker chief and cap of almonds rare,
And sits, a very grandmother,
Knitting her maidhood needless there.

And so on she sees the deeper suns
That usher in the happy May,
She sighs to think her time is past,
And weeps because she cannot stay,
And leaves her tears upon the grass,
And turns her face, and glides away.

House, Farm and Garden.

PRACTICAL HINTS ON GARDENING.

The melting of the snow and ice reminds us that "winter is past, the rain is over and gone, the time of the singing of birds is come," and the time of planting seeds is also come; so a few hints on the subject may not come amiss.

First prepare your soil properly. If you have no loam laid away for this purpose, take, any warm day, the upper surface of loam from your richest garden beds. Bake it in the oven in an old tin pan; when so dry as to crumble in your hands, add one-third white sand. Now fill your pots, boxes or pans with the mixture. The pots made for planting seed, with large holes for drainage, are the best, but salt, raisin or cigar boxes will answer. Fill to the brim with the heated soil, press down firmly, and with your milk-warm plant your seed. If large enough, place them in one at a time, about an inch apart; if very small, like petunias, sprinkle over the soil, press them in gently with the hand, then sprinkle on sand. Take a piece of an old flannel, double it, and lay on the seeds, pressing it down at the corners; then water with lukewarm water over the flannel. Put your pots or boxes in some warm place, on the shelf of a range, or on a mantel-piece under a stove-pipe. The kitchen is the best place, the steam from the kettles keeps the air moist.

Leave the boxes there until the seeds begin to push, giving lukewarm water over the flannel every day, then put in a sunny window, and if the nights are chilly, at least 50 degrees, put on mantelshelf or back of the stove. This way of planting rarely fails; the earth being warmed through starts the seeds as well as a hot bed, and the flannel prevents the cracking of the top of the soil, also keeps the seeds moist. We planted tomato seed in this manner the fifth of March, and they had all pushed through by the tenth! Could a hot bed do better? Verbena seed, which all admit are hard to germinate, showed their heads in one week! All kind of seeds treated in this manner will grow and we shall not hear so many complaints about the seedsmen. Half the non-success in seed raising arises from the ignorance of the fact, that seeds will grow no matter what treatment they receive. The tomato will germinate anywhere, but half the delicate flower seeds refuse to see light on account of the dampness of planting. Now is the time to remember the old hymn—

In the morning sow thy seed,
At noon hold not thy hand.

If the amateur gardener desires a handsome show of flowers in the summer,

I will give a list of indispensables for the young amateur. "The catalogues" fairly bewilder us with their huge lists of desirables, and most of us would double in great quantity part of them: Truffaut's asters; Drummond's phlox; dwarf asters; double portulacar rose asters; salpiglossis, finest mixed; white and rose acrocilium; double dwarf scabious, alyssum, sweet; schizanthus; ornamental kale; ancholious, French stocks, double blotched balsams; tagetes signata pumile; candy-tuft; white and purple; tropeolums; clarkia, white pink; whitlavia; dianthus, dore pleus; sweet peas; China pink, double; nemophila insignis; salvia horida murale; sanvitalia procumbens; larkspur, dwarf and rocket; double zinnias; lobella speciosa; lychnis haa geana; mimulus tigrilodes; nigbolia variegata; nemophila; perilla nankineusis; panseer; petunia, Buchanan's hybrids.

A PENNSYLVANIA RECIPE FOR CURING HAMS AND BEEF.—If your meat has lain in pickle over six weeks, soak it two days in a large tub of water, then hang it to dry in the smoke-house for one day. Take for a common sized smoke-house two ears of corn, not cobs, put them upon a pan of blazing coals and set under your meat. Do this morning and night for one week, and the result will be better ham and beef than you have ever eaten. The flavor of the burning corn is wholly different from that of cobs. The meat will have a golden brown skin, and not the blackened hue which cobs give.

SEEDS.—Now is the time for farmers and gardeners to look over their stock of seeds, and see if they are well provided against the time of need. When planting time come, not a moment should be lost in hunting up seeds. If you are short of any particular kind of seed, and have plenty of some other sort, exchange with your neighbor. If this cannot be done, and you have to buy, be sure and buy of those only who are honest and can be depended upon. Always procure the best seed, for it is poor economy to use seed that will produce only inferior results. If you have planted the same variety of potatoes for several years, you had better change your seed; procure potatoes from a distance, for they will produce a much better crop, and the tubers will be larger and better. Most vegetables may be greatly improved by care in selecting the earliest and best seed. Those who can should raise their own seeds. For, as a general thing, those that you buy will prove inferior to those you raise. We have known cases where corn has been made to ripen a week or ten days earlier, after as many years, simply by selecting the seed in the field from the ears that ripened earliest. Potatoes may be wonderfully improved, both in earliness, size and beauty, by selecting the largest and most formed specimens among those ripening early. What is true of corn and tomatoes, is true of every other thing that grows. If, then, so great changes can be produced, let every one exercise great care in selecting seed, and then be sure and keep it pure and good.

CULTURE OF THE GRAPE.—We should avoid everything in grape culture which has a tendency to maintain an excess of moisture around the roots. Deep trenching and high manuring must be discarded, except in thin and elevated ocalities, and an abundant drainage supplied, which will carry off as quickly as possible the surplus water. Sites should be selected which have a gentle slope to carry away the surface water, before it can find its way through and saturate the earth, coarser materials and sandy soil should be used when the ground is flat, and all precautions taken to keep the soil warm and dry. The roots will then have energy and vitality enough to throw off the mildew and other attacks only weak vegetation, as we see it attacks the Delaware and weaker growing sorts first. As to vineyards, to be sure of success, they should be on side hills, as they are in the Pleasant Valley region, where the grapes never shown, have carried off the prizes this year. Mr. J. F. C. Hyde, who had a splendid crop of Hartford prolifics and Concords last year, had total failure, this on a soil like sand and the thatching dry, we were greatly surprised. Upon discussing the failure with us, he stated that he was an advocate of clean culture and frequent stirring the surface soil; but he feared he had overdone the work, as the continued dry weather of the soil not only prevented the water from the frequent rains running off rapidly, but actually contributed to absorb it and carry it down to the roots, keeping them continually moist. We are of his opinion, and for the very dry seasons would keep the cultivator out of the vineyard. Much information has been gained in regard to the new grapes. The Iona has alled to ripen in the East, and only in good ositions in the West. We find Clar ia is not only for favorite localities. Isabella has done etter, but it is not and never will be the early rape claimed by Dr. Grant. Ives's seedling ncreases in favor as a wine grape. Adondac is early and excellent. The Concord till continues to be the grape of "million," and as done better in all places than any other rape.—*Hovey's Magazine of Horticulture.*

STEWED OYSTERS.—We suppose that nine ut of ten housekeepers will contradict us point lank in a statement that nine out of ten of hem do not know how to stew a dish of oysters. y the ordinary routine that nearly every one ollows, either the oysters are stewed and shrivled out of all semblance of themselves in hape, size and flavor, or else the soup and hickening" has a raw taste that spoils it. Here s the right method. Try it once, and we'll arrant you won't need telling the second me. Pick the oysters out of juice with a fork, r dry as possible, stew the juice, thickening ith or water, of which the soup is to be made, ntil throughly cooked, then drop the oysters , and just as the cooled soup begins to show igns of simmering, empty out altogether, and ou will have rich soup and plump oysters, uelious enough to make you think you never ated real oysters before.

SALTANT LIME AS MANURES.—To garden oil of the usual staple, about fifty bushels of me per acre a sufficient quantity. If the oil be clayey, the quantity may be doubled. A very excellent manure is formed by mixing one bushel of salt with every two bushels of lime. ime cannot be applied to the soil too fresh rom the kiln; for, if allowed to absorb carbonic cid from the air, it is rapidly converted into ime. When crops are devastated by the sling, less them some evening, so as to render the urface of the soil quite white, with caustic ime, during the promise of a few days' dry weather. It is instant destruction to every slug it falls upon; and those that it misses are destroyed by their coming in contact with it when moving in search of food. Mixed in the proportion of one bushel of salt to two bushels of lime, it is an excellent manure for potatoes, dug into soil at planting time. Twenty bushels of lime and ten of salt would be enough for an acre sown over the surface. Salt, applied in the spring at the rate of twenty bushels per acre, has been found very beneficial to asparagus, broad beans, lettuces, onions, carrots, parsnips, potatoes and beets. Indeed, its properties are so generally useful, not only as promoting fertility, but as destroying slugs, that it is a good plan to sow the whole garden every April with this manure, at the rate above specified. The flower garden is included in this recommendation; for some of the best practical gardeners recommend it for the stock, hyacinth, amaryllis, ixia, anemone, colchium, narcissus and ranunculus; and in the fruit garden it has been found beneficial to almost every one of its tenants, especially the cherry and apple. On lawns and walks, it helps to drive away worms and to destroy moss.

BONES AND ASHES.—Bones and ashes pass through the housekeeper's hands every day. Wood is still the chief fuel in the farm house, and the value of the ashes is pretty well understood. They are prized for the lye they yield, and if there is a surplus from the soap making they help the kitchen garden at the back door. The bones are generally thrown to the dog and lost. Now if the careful housewife would save the bones as regularly as the ashes, she would practice a wiser economy and help her kitchen garden twice as fast. Bones are worth twice as much as ashes for manure, if dissolved, and the ashes will reduce them. Put both into a barrel in the cellar, if you please, and after mixing them half and half, keep them constantly moist with soap suds, the hotter the better. The suds should not be poured on in such quantities as to leach the ashes. In a few months the bones will be disintegrated, and the whole mass may then be mixed, and will make an excellent fertilizer for the flower border or the kitchen garden.—*American Agriculturist.*

MUCK IN COMPOST.—No definite rule can be laid down for the proportions of a compost heap. The more manure the quicker is the fermentation. As a general rule, two-thirds muck to one third manure, we have found a good ratio. If ashes are used instead of manure to cook the muck, one bushel of unleached or two bushels of leached, are sufficient for five bushels of muck. Lime also acts favorably on muck, and one bushel, slaked, with lime, will sweeten and render fit for use ten bushels of the vegetable matter. The mechanical effect of muck on the soil must not be passed by unnoticed. A few gravelly loams are rendered more compact and moist, and a stiff clay more friable and less liable to bake and crack.—*Massachusetts Ploughman.*

COAL ASHES AND THE CURRANT WORM.—Robert J. Swan of Geneva, N. Y., keeps his currant bushes entirely free of the currant worm by the use of coal ashes. He applies them in the spring by covering the ground about each bush four or five inches deep or more, and for a distance of two feet on each side. The mechanical sharpness of the ashes prevents the young larvæ from climbing through them, and the season of the fruit had passed when we saw the bushes, they showed great thriftiness and uninjured leaves. The same application was used about the quince, with equal success, for scrutinizing the borer—the ashes lying in the form of small heaps about the stems. From twelve bushes, he gathered this year sixteen bushels of very fine quinces.—*Country Gentleman.*

CHEAP PAINT.—A recipe for making a durable paint was sent, not long since, to the "Societe Encouragement," in Paris, which was said to have the hardness of stone, resists damp, and is very cheap. It had then been in use five years. The component parts are: Fifty pounds of finely powdered chalk, about 300 of fine hard sand; 4 of linseed oil, 1 red oxide of lead, and 1 of sulphuric acid, all to be mixed. The resin, chalk, sand and linseed oil are first boiled together in an iron boiler; the red lead and the sulphuric acid are then added, and all carefully mixed. The composition is applied while hot. If not found sufficiently fluid, it may be made thinner by adding more linseed oil. When cold and dry, it is said to form a varnish of the hardness of stone.

ABOUT HONEY.—To show that honey-bees, instead of being an injury to farmers, are a benefit to them, the fact is cited as well known to observing bee-keepers that when we have a fine yield of honey from the buckwheat or the orchard we have a corresponding yield of grain or fruit, unless prematurely destroyed by frost or other causes. There seasons when bees work very little on buckwheat, and the result has been, with scarcely an exception, a small yield of grain. In many parts of Russia, some peasants have a hundred hives of bees, and thus make more profit of their bees than of corn. In one locality the number of hives was incredible; a single parish forest, it is said, possessed five hundred swarms. Fabulous as such statements seem, at the point of death, when all stimulants and tonics had failed, a table spoonful given every half-hour, has rallied and saved the patient.—*New England Farmer.*

James Stephens and his Plans.

An "American Fenian," as he styles himself, has an article in the November number of *Tinsley's Magazine* on "The Irish Conspiracy." From it we cut the following in relation to James Stephens and the manner in which he proposed to liberate Ireland:

When I last saw Mr. James Stephens at Paris, he was good enough to give me a brief but clear outline account of the plan of the new organization. Those who distrust him as a leader, and those who have been induced to despise him as a man, should have seen him as I did, living in extreme poverty in an obscure street of the French capital, veiling his notoriety under an assumed name, and devoting his limited income to the restoration of his exploded plots. Englishmen admire Jeff Davis in Canada, and why should not Americans admire Stephens in exile? For twenty years this conspirator labored to organize the Fenian Brotherhood. He traveled on foot through the length and breadth of Ireland; he guided the confidence of the people; he formed an army of fifty thousand resolute men, of whom he was the acknowledged chief. He says that if the means had been supplied by the Fenians in America, he could have placed 100,000 in the field armed and equipped; but the American branch of the organization would not trust him; he was obliged to go to the United States to explain his plans to leaders there; ambitious rivals supplanted him, and the rebellion was a failure. But Mr. James Stephens never asked and never wanted any American recruits. The men from Ireland, the money from America—that was the original plan of Fenianism.

The fifty thousand men enlisted by Mr. James Stephens are in Ireland still. They have not been arrested; they cannot be dispersed, for Colonel Kelly, who assumed command after the deposition of Stephens, knew very few of them. General Patrick Condon, General Massey, and Colonel Fariola, both of whom have been arrested and have turned informers for the Crown, undertook to manage the recent outbreak in Irland, but were never acquainted with a tenth part of the genuine Fenian organization. Condon, or Massey, knows less than he tells; Fariola knows more than he tells; but Mr. Stephens assured me long before their arrest, and while they both seemed true to the principles of Fenians, that he was totally unacquainted with them, and would refuse to recognize them should he ever again secure the control of the organization which he had created. The fact is, that the English authorities have happened upon a mere offshoot of Fenianism. They cut down the parasite, and think that they have felled the tree. Some of the Fenians who have been arrested may have sojourned for a while in America; they may have been naturalized; they may have fought in the armies during the late civil war; but in no other sense can Fenianism be called an American organization. It is Irish from beginning to end; it was formed by an Irishman, and none but Irishmen were permitted to enrol themselves. Originally the organization was confined to Irishmen in Ireland; afterward, because money was needed to purchase arms, it was extended to Irishmen in America, and the two brotherhoods were in co-operation. It was a conspiracy within the kingdom of Great Britian supported by sympathizers in the United States, but both conspirators and sympathizers were Irishmen. The plan of Mr. Stephens was to complete the organization, arm and drill the men, and then wait until England became involved in a foreign war. The immediate cause and distrust of the Fenians in America precipitated events; instead of being managed by competent leaders, the movement fell into such hands as those which the English Government has now bribed or macaulied; isolated outrages like those at Manchester, Dublin, and Clerkenwell occurred instead of a general insurrection and the failure which has ensued is the legitimate penalty of this departure from the original programme. If Fenianism ever succeeds, it must be while England is engaged in a war with some other nation. Only those who are truly in earnest have the patience to await such an opportunity.

GREAT DOCTORS IN CONSULTATION.—When Dr. Bethune and his wife were in Europe, Mrs. Bethune had been transported by water from Liverpool to London in order to consult Sir Astley Cooper and Sir James Clarke. At this place her husband joined her, to make the discovery that even the most learned doctors may be found tapping. The consultation, not being extensive, when the two physicians retired for consultation, Mr. Bethune was in a position where he could overhear their remarks. They had a pleasant interview; one relating how he on a certain occasion came very near fighting a duel. The difficulties and danger of the position occupied some time to describe, and they were about to separate when one recalled the patient. "But what shall we do with Bethune's wife?" "O, give her the old pill," was the ready reply. It is superfluous to add that this most expensive medical attendance quickly terminated.

THE election in Wisconsin for two Supreme Court Judges takes place on the 7th of April. Although the State has a staunch Republican majority usually, the Democrats are making great efforts to succeed this time. They have the help of some disaffection among the people, growing out of the farm mortgage question.

Florida as a Residence for Northern Men.

Solon Robinson writes as follows to the *Tribune* upon several points that will be of interest to northern men contemplating emigration to Florida:—

As to the salubrity of the climate, I fully believe its average equal to Indiana or Illinois, and certainly no worse for immigrants from any of the Northern States than central New York was in its early settlement for those who went into its forest from New England. There are, here, as there, miasmatic localities, and localities where mosquitoes are as pestiferous as they are on the Montezuma marshes—no worse, and certainly no worse than I have often found them at various points around New York. The only difference is, they last longer, and that is the only reason why the heat is more oppressive here than there—it is of longer continuance. To some persons, the thermometer at 80 degrees, as it has been repeatedly this month, might be oppressive, to me it is simply delicious.

As to the question whether white men can labor here, that is, labor in the field as farmers, it is not an open question. It has been decided long ago. All the talk that they cannot, belongs to the code of lies upon which slavery existed. The same code declares that cotton cannot be grown by free labor. It might just as well assert that indian corn can only be successfully grown by slaves—slaves that you can control by the lash. I tell you that cotton, rice, cane, corn, potatoes, culinary vegetables, oranges, lemons, limes, peaches, melons, and many other things, can be profitably grown by free labor, upon small farms, upon hundreds and thousands of acres of the unoccupied lands of this immediate vicinity, which can be purchased at rates from $1 to $20 an acre. In some cases, large old plantations can be bought for less than half the cost of the building, and other valuable improvements. I attended a sheriff's sale of a tract of good land within a week past, situated within three miles of this town, title indisputable, that was struck off at $10 per acre. Land which was offered me last spring near town at $40, has lately been sold at $20 an acre. There is a vast quantity of State and United States land through all the lower part of the State, subject to entry; besides a great many old Spanish grants, generally in large tracts, which can be bought at extremely low rates. There is no lack of land to cultivate. It is, however, sometimes difficult to obtain the most desirable locations, except in large tracts. The idea of such a possibility as cultivating the lands of this, or any other Southern State, in small farms, has never been allowed by those who have controlled the destinies of all the region adapted to cotton-growing. Slavery and small farming were incompatible. Hence, the large plantations, and held in large plantations, which generally means 500 acres in cultivation and 5000 acres in forest, or "range," wide enough to keep off near neighbors and prevent schools, and only allow villages or churches to be established few and far between. And this is the general condition of the South. Before it can ever be "reconstructed" upon common-sense principles, the whole system must be changed, and old plantations divided, and owned and occupied, as the land is generally in the Northern States, by those who will cultivate it with their own hands. The negroes will willingly, gladly do this, to a large extent, if they could get possession. They will work, if given the privilege. There is no reason to doubt this proposition.

A great many northern men have understood cotton-planting since the war, and have failed. Not because negroes would not work for wages, but because their employers did not understand the business, and would not attend to it. As a general rule, northern men are farmers, and not planters. As farmers, in Florida, they will succeed. As planters, they will fail. As farmers, they will live on the fat of the land, and controllable, working, after their fashion, faithfully. In gangs of a hundred, fifty, or twenty, I should not care to risk them, any sooner than I would risk the same number of Irishmen. A gang of Irishmen, if they struck, "a strike," at the critical time, when one week's cessation of labor would destroy the entire crop, in farming, with one to five hired hands, no such difficulty could occur, because single laborers are always easily obtained. As to work positively, the negroes are just as willing to work for wages as white men or women are.

There is, therefore, nothing to hinder northern farmers from coming here, buying land, settling upon, and cultivating with profit the vast area of cheap, wild lands, on old, half-improved, dilapidated plantations. Remember, that nearly all East Florida, as though containing "our ancient city," and the first settled land in America, is this day as much "wild land" as it was when first discovered. I may, perhaps, tell you why in my next letter. There are good, sufficient reasons, none of which are for poor soil, unhealthy, nor infertility, nor unsuitableness for northern or European immigrants, nor because cultivation could not be made profitable. Yet I would not have you suppose that *I* intend to represent the country as almost a paradise, or abounding in riches, easily garnered, with but little labor. On the contrary, I have about as many difficulties to be overcome and privations to be endured, for one settler in the wilderness, as any other wilderness country; and those who expect to succeed must come prepared to meet these difficulties manfully. Then this State will be found by those who gave it the name it bears anticipated—"a land of flowers," and all its sweet accompaniments.

The Philosophy of Eating.

It may be a humiliating reflection to man who justly prides himself on the intellectual qualities which make him master of the elements, and on the godlike possibilities of his nature, that, after all, what he is depends, to a great extent, on what he eats; yet it is just as true as it is that, without eating, he will, in a short time, become a mass of corruption. Yet the idea of any system of philosophy applying to the frequent act of eating will strike most of our readers as something new. Nevertheless—with the exception of the spiritual nature, which being a creation of the Divine Spirit, may have miraculous aid to lift it above the most depressing influences—what man is depends upon what he eats.

The intelligent farmer adapts the dressing of his land to the requirements of the crop which he desires to raise upon it. So soon as he finds that his fields will not produce wheat, he knows that the elements of the soil which are needed for wheat are wanting; he supplies these, and is sure of a good crop. If he finds the intelligence which would lead to the adoption of such measures, he will, very probably, apply dressing at random, or such as a neighbor, working entirely different land, has found efficacious, and will, very likely, hit upon that of which he has already a superabundance, and which is, therefore, injurious. It is thus that most of us nourish the body—the soil whence spring all our capabilities of external action.

In a natural condition of life, with the tastes unperverted, each person would crave just such food as was, at the time, best adapted to his needs; but among civilized peoples there are few natural instincts, perversion of appetite begun in the cradle, and has been continued though subsequent life, and it becomes necessary to apply the discoveries of science, or to suffer the consequences which never fail to visit the infraction of the laws of our being.

In a work bearing the title which we have adopted as the subject of this article, Professor J. Bellows has aimed to add to the information of the people on a subject which, if the above views be correct, is of great moment. This work is published in a neat form by Messrs. Lee & Houghton, and may be ordered of booksellers by all who choose to avail themselves of the means of knowledge which lie within their reach.

One of the greatest blunders, according to Dr. Bellows, is the manner in which we prepare our grain for use. The nitrates are necessary for the creation of the muscular tissues of the body and for supplying the waste caused by their use; yet from the flour which is commonly used nearly all these elements have been removed for the sake of securing whiteness.

"It is estimated that ninety-five per cent. of bread used in Boston is made of wheat flour, out of which has been taken, by the process of grinding and bolting, all but about five per cent. of its muscle-making and life-supporting elements, so that fifteen barrels are required to furnish as many of these elements as one barrel of unbolted wheat-meal. . . . Unbolted grain phosphates are inseparable by mechanical means, being bound together by gluten, of which it is mostly composed, while the carbonates, which are mucilaginous starch, which is granular and loosely adherent, is easily separated from the glutinous crust by the process of grinding and bolting. In making superfine flour, twenty-five per cent. of the meal goes off in the sifting, of which fifteen per cent. is of the nitrates and phosphates, and ten per cent. of carbonates.

"Bread thus made from good superfine flour is only negatively delcterious, having lost its food for muscles and brains; and it need not, therefore, be wondered at that so many of these elements are supplied in lean meat, fish, or cheese, or other food containing similar elements; but if eaten with butter or sugar only, and nothing else, would soon make of us bloated and stupid idiots.

"An intelligent farmer knows how to feed his land, his horses, his cattle, and his pigs; but not how to feed his children. He knows that fine flour is not good for pigs, and he gives them the whole of the grain, or perhaps takes out the bran and coarser part, which contain food for muscles and brains, and gives them to his pigs, while the fine flour, which contains neither food for brain or muscle, he gives to his children. He separates the skim-milk and buttermilk, in which are found all the elements for muscle and brain, and gives his children the butter, which only heats them and makes them inactive, without furnishing a particle of the nutriment which they need."

But man is designed to be an intellectually as well as a muscularly active being, and only as he is such does he vindicate his manhood. God, in his providence, has so distributed the elements of nutrition through the articles designed for his sustenance, as to supply all the wants of the body, but man, in his wisdom, carefully removes from the "staff of life" those elements which tend to make the nerves firm.

"That mental and nervous power is dependent on food, is an idea that may at first strike the mind as absurd, and unworthy of investigation; but the same process that proves muscles to be dependent for development and vigor and health on food containing nitrogen, proves the brain and nerves to be dependent for the development and health and the vigorous exercise of their functions on food containing phosphorus. The same laws apply to the brain as to the muscular system, and as the muscles can be trained, and their power developed by appropriate food as well as appropriate exercise, so the brains of our children may be developed in the dining-room as well as in the school-room—the caterer and cook being important auxiliaries to the schoolmaster."

The principles here only hinted at may be made useful in adapting one's food to one's work, and in correcting abnormal tendencies in children. The child of precocious brain will be found to crave food in which brain food or phosphorus abounds—such as fish, lean meats peas, beans, etc. By giving instead cooling fruits, and vegetables, with other articles containing carbonaceous elements, the undue mental development may be checked, and many a youthful life be saved to health and usefulness. Stupidity may, on the same principle, be encouraged or checked.

Many of the most promising children are sacrificed to a desire to bring them forward in advance of other children, and this desire is stimulated by natural instincts. Every living creature rejoices in the use of the faculties which God has given it, 'as a strong man to run a race.' The boy whose muscles are well developed will never keep still, but is ready for anything, good or bad, in which he can stir himself. Stupidity is one study is a punishment.

"But the boy whose muscles are feeble, and whose brain is largely developed, sits still and reads, and the appetite of course conforms to the kind and amount of exercise. If he wastes his muscles by exercise, his appetite will demand the muscle-making nitrates to supply the waste. If he exhausts the phosphorus of the brain by study, he will desire phosphatic food to restore it. While the fat and stupid boy, who has neither muscles nor brain, will crave carbonaceous articles to feed his stupidity; and indulgence in these appetites will of course increase the peculiarity."

We have not attempted to give an adequate idea of the scope of Dr. Bellow's work, but only to use such passages as shall impress our readers with the fact that, notwithstanding some erroneous theories in Dr. Bellow's book—and we think there are several—there is a philosophy which may be applied to eating, and which it behooves each to study for himself. We think that, after reading the book before us, a preacher would hardly feel astonished at an unusual want of freedom in preaching after a hearty breakfast of sausage and buckwheat-cakes, or a supper of rice and milk.

Vineyards and Wine-Drinking of Persia.

We are permitted to publish these extracts of a letter from a missionary in Persia to his father in Andover:

* * * If I had any sentiments favorable to the moderate use of wine, when I left America, my observations during the seven years I have resided in this paradise of vineyards, have convinced me that the principal of total abstinence is the only safeguard against the great social and religious evils, that flow from the practice of wine-drinking. Let me state some of the facts:

CHARACTER OF THE WINES AND EXTENT OF THE PRODUCTION.

After the most carful inquiries, I have unable to learn that wine is ever manufactured in this country which is not intoxicating. The various kinds made, differ more or less in their intoxicating powers, but all are fermented, and all sooner or later produce the same effect. The simple unfermented juice of the grape is never used as a beverage. The very Syriac word for wine, *khamra*, by its etymology, signifies fermented.

The vineyards of Oroomiah are almost unlimited in extent, and all classes engage in the cultivation. I would as soon think of a man of Ashmun's wealth and position, if like ourselves, he owned a vineyard, as a merchant, or a lawyer, or a farmer in Brighton. To say that all drink to excess, would be widely at variance with the truth; the majority, perhaps, are moderate drinkers, though even these are too often betrayed into excesses on the occasions of feasts, days, at weddings and other convivial gatherings.

It is quite possible that a traveler passing though the country at some seasons of the year might pass a single case of intoxication, and thence infer that drunkenness was a total stranger in the land. But let him pass from village to village, during the months occuring between the vintage and the beginning of Lent, when not a single village among the higher and the arch fiend present everywhere in his most disgusting forms. At such periods, priests as well as laymen make copious draughts daily, upon the contents of the wine-stores of their neighbors. This too is the favorite season for betrothals and weddings, and the plentiful supply of wine furnished on these occasions is like gunpowder to a match—no wight supposes drunkenness in its various stages to be other too common to excite surprise. Priests apologize with the greatest coolness for irregularity of conduct, declaring that they were at the time under the influence of wine. Scarcely any disgrace attaches even to a priest for the lighter forms of intoxication, provided he commits no breach of the peace.

A famine succeeding Lent, is especially noted for the amount of wine consumed. The devotees of the bowl now give themselves up to the greatest excesses—midnight orgies, low songs and boisterous quarrels resound in almost every house. Many, as might be seen in moderate drinkers, are drawn almost irresistibly into this vortex of drunken revelry. A fellow missionary tells me that on visiting, at the carnival season, last year, a large Christian village of 300 or 400 families, he found on inquiry that from 200 to 300 were drunk, and that some one was drunk in all but about twenty houses out of one hundred and thirty.

During the days of fast wine is prohibited, because the jars in which it is preserved are besmeared with grease to prevent leaking. Yet even then a large amount is consumed, for shortly after Easter the supply of the domestic article is nearly exhausted, except in the larger villages and cities.

As the supply of wine diminishes, the lovers of strong drink resort to *arrack*, which, with myself, is a recent introduction. It consists of its greater strength and more speedy effects. As elsewhere, the love of the weaker leads to the use of the stronger, and probably no wine drinker would refuse *arrack* when offered him. The liquor is distilled from raisins.

SOCIAL RESULTS OF WINE DRINKING.

The effects of the drinking customs of Persia are such as follow the use of intoxicating liquors in America. The results are similar, but they are not only are they seen and felt, but fully admitted in the current sentiments of the people, and proclaimed in national proverbs. Even the most strenuous advocates of the prevailing practices, do not deny the evils which necessarily attend and follow these drinking customs; they maintain, however, that these unhappy consequences arise from the immoderate use of the intoxicating beverage.

There is scarcely a community to be found where the blighting influences of intemperance are not seen, in families distressed and ruined, properties squandered, characters destroyed, and lives lost. Cases not a few, are know to me, in which women of estimable character are reduced to extreme poverty by the habitual intemperance of their husbands. In a prize essay, written last year by one of our native assistants, the opinion was expressed that the injuries to the Nestorian people in property resulting from the habits of wine-drinking, greatly outweigh the evils experienced from Mussulman oppression and outrages. I asked the awarders of the prize, who were among the most intelligent Nestorians, if this opinion could be correct, and they unanimously expressed the belief that it was.—*Boston Traveller.*

Turkish Women.

One of the greatest obstacles to the successful civilization of Turkey is the degradation of the female sex there. The theory of the Turks is that women are created to be slaves and bear children. As a consequence, their education and refinement are wholly neglected. Their ignorance is accompanied with an amount of superstition and fanaticism almost beyond the imagination. They give themselves up to the ideal entirely. Their minds are peopled with spirits and genii that hold high carnival and dethrone the reason. When sick, the spiritual physician first comes before the regular doctor, and his means of eleanchantment are often more potent than medicines. The priest has unlimited sway over their beliefs, and that he has power to exorcise the devil, raise the dead, and perform miracles, is quite as much a part of their religious teaching. Their devotion to the Koran and to the Mohammedan religion is as sincere as it was 1,200 years ago. Indeed, female society is the same in Turkey as it was hundreds of years ago. The women are steeped in superstition and ignorance, revelling in the errors of heathen ages, and reeking all over with unchristian and uncivilized enormities, are the mothers and teachers of the Turkish youth. Reform is impossible with them, for the efforts of the priests all tend to keeping them in this dark condition, and the interest that husbands take in the reformation of even their own harems is too remote to accomplish any good. Some of the more enlightened Turkish men speak of reforms and education, but never in connection with the women of the land. Until the female sex are relieved from their barbaric ignorance; until the load of superstition that now clogs them below the scale of mortals is raised; until these mothers and teachers of the young are rendered competent to fulfil their high trusts, we can expect but little in the way of Turkish reform.

A Genuine Cup of Tea.

Did you ever return home from a journey, cold, wet, and weary, and unexpected, after tea was over and the tea leaves ejected from the silver? Bright eyes glistened with delight at the sight of yours—perhaps more than one pair, and a silvery voice names the magic word, "tea." Out of some dozen of these instances did it ever happen to you—when the tea had been made for you alone—to partake a cup whose delicious fragrance had dwelt ever after on your palate, like a vision of paradise, and of which you have sometimes a definite dream? Such an instance once occurred to me, not after a journey, but at a dining-out. I left the animals at their accustomed wine, and followed on the track of the girls, some of whom were so fully of charms that, had Hebe fallen sick, they might have supplied her place at the board of Jove without the fair nectar-bearer being missed.

A hermetically sealed canister was brought containing a single pound; not a leaden canister, but one of of tin; not black tin, either, but the pure metal—thin, white, glittering, and crackling. Talk of the charms of the uncut novel, indeed! Give me the opening of such a virgin case, as it left China. It was not green tea, it was not black tea; neither too young nor too old; not unpleasing with astringence, on the one hand, nor with the vapid, half-earthy taste of decayed vegetable matter, on the other; it was tea in its most perfect state, full charged with aroma, which, when it was opened, diffused its fragrance through the whole apartment, putting all other perfumes to shame. About an ounce was then rubbed to powder by my fair Hebe, and deposited in its broad, shallow, silver receiver with just cold water enough to saturate it. After standing twenty minutes, hot water off the boil, as it is technically called—that is, free from ebullition—was poured on it, amounting in quantity to three-quarters of a pint, and the lid was closely shut down on it, while the cylindrical-shaped tea cup was placed on the spout to catch the aroma thence issuing. At the expiration of a minute it was poured out (what a beautiful hand it was!) and the rich globules of essential oil might be seen floating on the surface—a perfect treasury of delight. A small portion of Aldery cream was instantly added to prevent the escape of the essential oil, and just sufficient of the brilliant large, crystallized sugar, to neutralize the slight bitter. Oh, heavens! to sip that most exquisite cup of delight was bliss almost too great for earth. A thousand years of rapture all concentrated into the space of a minute, as if the joys of all the world had been skimmed for my peculiar drinking! I should rather say imbibing, for to have swallowed the liquid like an ordinary beverage, without tasting every drop, would have been sacrilege.—*Leigh Hunt.*

Charles Dickens.

A sensible letter from Washington, concerning Mr. Dickens' visit to the United States appears in the *Pall Mall Gazette*. The writes says:

On his arrival in Boston Mr. Dickens found himself in a literary society which had sprung up since his earlier visit, and as he passed through the great cities he has moved among a people to whom a "live author" is no longer a surprise or a curiosity. He has produced no commotion by his walks along Broadway, Washington street or Pennsylvania avenue, but he has been thrown upon his merits as a writer and reader. He has thus been enabled to observe American society under circumstances far more favorable than those amid which his first *American Notes* were taken, and we may apprehend that the new conditions of the country are likely to furnish him with subjects suggestive of something more than spicy caricature.

The *bonhomie* with which he has been received is itself characteristic of the growth of the American mind, showing as it does that its young and morbid sensitiveness to ridicule has in a great measure disappeared. It must be admitted that the sort of welcome now known to have been then in America that Mr. Dickens' work on this country was calculated to produce irritation, not so much by what it observed as what it did not observe, the caricatures being almost entirely overlooked in the recognition of the serious and important traits of the American life and character. It is not wonderful that he should feel himself somewhat embarrassed personally, as a person might who finds himself the lion of a public show. The peasant would consider his lot a hard one who was not the owner, in whole or in part, of at least one vineyard. Probably nine-tenths of all the Christians have two vineyards, annually manufacture a supply of wine, either for home consumption or for sale.

WINE-DRINKING HABITS OF THE PEOPLE.

The Christians of Persia, whether Nestorians, Armenians, or Catholics, are, as a rule, habitual wine-drinkers, by which I mean, they are accustomed to drink wine daily, but not to excess. To say that all drink to excess, would be widely at variance with the truth; the majority, perhaps, are moderate drinkers, though even these are too often betrayed into excesses on the occasions of feasts, days, at weddings and other convivial gatherings.

It is quite possible that a traveler passing though the country at some seasons of the year might pass a single case of intoxication, and thence infer that drunkenness was a total stranger in the land. But let him pass from village to village, during the months occuring between the vintage and the beginning of Lent, when not a single village among the higher and the arch fiend present everywhere in his most disgusting forms. At such periods, priests as well as laymen make copious draughts daily, upon the contents of the wine-stores of their neighbors. This too is the favorite season for betrothals and weddings, and the plentiful supply of wine furnished on these occasions is like gunpowder to a match—no wight supposes drunkenness in its various stages to be other too common to excite surprise. Priests apologize

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1868.

THE COURT OF IMPEACHMENT A SCHOOL.

We trust that all citizens will read the proceedings of the great impeachment case now in process of trial. It is the greatest state trial in American history, and will be entitled to no secondary place among the state trials of all time. Every inhabitant of the United States has an immediate interest in the grand result, whatever it may be, which is a cogent reason why all should watch its progress with close attention. The trial is also worthy of study in its educational aspect. No one can be an attentive spectator of the trial of an important jury case before an intelligent court, without receiving ideas and even a sort of mental training which may be of great value to him both as a man and a citizen. It has frequently been said that the institution of trial by jury must be viewed both as an agency of popular education, and as an instrument for the administration of justice—and that in the former character, it may be almost a valuable as in the latter. As before remarked, the mere spectator of the trial, if he gives its doings close attention, receives from the scene a tincture of education; while the juror whose duty it is to master all the circumstances and details of the case, necessarily receives somewhat more. He learns something of the laws of the land, and of their application; he becomes acquainted with the principles upon which written documents are interpreted; he sees opened fresh pages in the book of human nature, and by listening to and comparing conflicting statements of fact and opposing arguments of counsel, his intellectual faculties are sharpened and invigorated. In an important sense of the word, this is education.

If these remarks are well founded, then we may justly consider the grand investigation now going on in Washington as affording a rare opportunity of education to the American people. The high Court of Impeachment, consisting of the United States Senate, presided over by the Chief Justice, is a people's college. The Senators are not jurors; they are all members of the Court. They are judges. Witnesses will be examined, and the managers of the impeachment and the counsel of the accused will argue the case in their presence, and their votes will determine the question of guilt or innocence at issue. In a sense, the decision of the Senate will be the decision of the people, as the Senators act as their representatives, and are responsible to them. From no point o view, however, is it possible for the people to be indifferent spectators of the great process, or to escape responsibility in its decision. They will judge their representatives, and that they may do this justly and intelligently, they must judge the accused. Every citizen is a juror in the case. Thanks to the Press and to the readiness with which now-a-days spoken words are recorded and transmitted, the people are enabled to follow the proceedings step by step. The testimony of the witnesses and the speeches of the lawyers, place within the reach of all the means of making up their minds as to the merits of both sides of the question. At the present stage of the trial, it does not seem likely that much new light will be cast by it upon the facts already known to the public. General BUTLER's speech is very long, and manifests both the kind and measure of ability which he was expected to display. Perhaps it is rather more moderate and less denunciatory than some anticipated. But General BUTLER has been noted for many years as a very effective and successful practitioner in criminal cases. His style of language and manner of legal discussion, are doubtless quite settled by habit, and perhaps there was no sufficient reason why he should have changed them for the occasion. Probably every reader will be struck with the entire absence of novelty in the speech. Except the purely legal matter it contains, the speech presents absolutely nothing new. Both the facts and the arguments have already been recited again and again in the newspapers. Nor need we expect much novelty in any of the speeches that are yet to be delivered. This circumstance, however, will not prevent the proceedings of the Court from being followed with interest, as every one will desire to know the allegations and arguments on which shall rest the decisions of the Court.

WHERE did King THEODORE of Abyssinia, get his artillery? This question is now sometimes asked, and we confess our inability to answer it with precision. Probably his heavy guns are of a very rude discription, and they may be of native manufacture. There is an old civilization such as it is, in Abyssinia, and during the last two hundred years the country has been frequently visited by Europeans. The emperors have often had Frenchmen and Germans in their service. Then, for the last century, war has raged in Amhara and Tigre, important divisions of the empire. The Abyssinians might learn how to cast guns, either from Europe or from India. We have seen big guns in India two hundred years old, and for ages there has been some intercourse between that country and Abyssinia. In India natives of Abyssinia are often found at the present time in the service of the native princes, where they are called *Hubshis* As iron is abundant in the mountains of Lasta in Abyssinia, heavy guns of a sort are easily accounted for. If THEODORE has got mortars, shells, etc., he, or his predecessors probably received them from Egypt, from which country are obtained the best sword blades and other cutlery used in the country.

So completely has Wall street "discounted" the impeachment trial, that more interest is felt in the Connecticut election and the VANDERBILT-DREW war, than the daily proceedings of the high court, which has already ceased to be a lion among the money changers. All that anybody seems to wish is that the trial may come to as early conclusion as possible, and that the verdict may be reached and executed with perfect propriety, and strict regard for the rights of all concerned.

THE New York *Leader*, which is a recognized and influential Democratic organ—by which we mean a thing played upon by those whose interest it is to have certain tunes played, according to circumstances—has put up the names of HORATIO SEYMOUR for President and Senator HENDRICKS for Vice President. The significance of this will be better understood when it is known that the *Leader* is largely under the control of AUGUST BELMONT and is the confidential organ of Tammany Hall.

THE Newark (N. J.) *Courier* says Mr. COLFAX will have the vote of that State for the Vice Presidency, and it is of the opinion that a stronger ticket than GRANT and COLFAX could not be nominated. The *Courier* says:

> As it seems to us, there would be a peculiar propriety in New Jersey giving her vote to the next Vice President. It was here that his ancestors lived and are buried; here that his own thoughts have always turned, with pride or real reverence, in all his after life. In indorsing him, the State would do the next thing to indorsing one of her own citizens, and one who is in the largest sense worthy of her confidence and support.

PERHAPS some persons may think it not a little strange that two influential Roman Catholic papers of the Democratic persuasion politically—one in New York, the other in Cincinnati—should within the last few days have come out for Mr. Chase for President. With them, not as with certain journals which have proposed Mr. Chase more in derision than earnest, they appear to be entirely sincere, a fact which, while there is not the least likelihood of the Democracy adopting Mr. Chase, proves that really there is something at the bottom of the idea. The fact denotes liberality in another respect—Mr. Chase being a leading Methodist.

SENATOR WADE has taken steps preliminary to bringing a suit for libel against the Cleveland *Leader*. The thing complained of is a Washington letter written by George Alfred Townsend, wherein was repeated what purported to be a conversation, in which the *Leader* and Mr. Chase were spoken of in uncomplimentary terms, and when, it is alleged, the Senator used language that would be more injurious to himself than any one else. He denies the truth of Mr. Townsend's statement, but the latter says he can prove it.

CROP AND FRUIT PROSPECT.

Our friends everywhere will confer a favor by writing us briefly concerning the grain and fruit prospect, and the farming and business prospect generally. We shall be obliged for any item of local interest that may be within their knowledge.

Congress and the Suffrage Question.

Hon. G. V. Lawrence, of the Twenty-fourth District, having been represented in the telegraphic report of the proceedings of Congress as favoring Congressional control of suffrage in all the States of the Union, denies the same in a card published in the Washington, Pa., *Reporter* as follows. The same report was published generally throughout the country:

MESSRS. EDITORS: On my arrival home yesterday on a very brief visit to my family, my attention was called to a telegraphic report from Washington on the 18th inst., and published in the Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL of the 19th, in which it was said that I had spoken in favor of the bill of Mr. Broomall, of Pennsylvania, proposing to extend and control suffrage in all the States of the Union by act of Congress. I cannot account for the mistake. Messrs. Broomall, Stevens and Kelley spoke for it, and Messrs. Beaman (Rep.) and Woodward (Dem.) against it. I did not speak for or against it. I believe that Congress has no power under the Constitution to interfere with suffrage *in any organized State*. It is a question for the States and the people thereof to regulate, to limit or extend as they please, and hence I regretted (as did nine-tenths of the Union men in Congress) the introduction of the bill, and do not wish to be thus grossly misrepresented. GEO. V. LAWRENCE.

MONONGAHELA CITY, March 23, 1868.

Whisky Rascalities.

The conviction is quite general that the practice of Secretary McCulloch of compromising with the distillers has encouraged rascality. It has been severely condemned in the Senate by Fessenden, Morton and others. Fessenden said that he didn't believe there was an honest distiller in the whole country, and it is generally believed at Washington that a large proportion of the revenue officers are dishonest. The statement is openly made in Washington that the distillers have raised $1,000,000 for the purpose of buying up enough Republican Senators to acquit the President. The distillers generally are ardent Johnson men, and seem afraid that Mr. Wade will remove corrupt revenue officers, if he can get at them. The lobby is so immense that it can accomplish wonders in Congress, but in the House at least there is a strong desire to enforce the collection of the two-dollar tax, no matter what becomes of the distillers or dishonest revenue officers.

Mr. Stevens on the Presidency and Vice Presidency.

Thaddeus Stevens has written a letter to a townsman on the Chicago Convention. The Republicans of Lancaster having by a direct vote indicated their preference for Mr. Colfax for the Vice Presidency, he says:

> "I should deem it your duty as a matter of personal fidelity to begin by voting for that person. Should he be a friend of mine for the Presidency, it seems to me justified in violating the wishes of his constituents to support any other person. But if the person thus indicated as their first choice should fail of a probability of election, or gradually decline from that hope, so that it would be useless to support him, I should use all of my efforts in favor of B. F. Wade."

After warmly indorsing Mr. Wade as "a true man," in whose success the country would profit, Mr. Stevens proceeds to speak of the Presidency as follows:

> "As to the candidate for the Presidency, I presume you all agree that none other than Gen. Grant is to be thought of. He is the only man who has originated in principle, without ostentation, and without a single blunder, the measure by which reconstruction can be made. His judgment of men is so sound that I have full faith that he will surround him the ablest and purest men of the nation."

The Grant Stock.

Gen. James S. Brisbin is writing a series of articles which he styles the "Grant Papers." From the following, it is evident that the Grant stock is good, and that he comes honestly by the qualities so conspicuously displayed in his own history, and which his countrymen prize so highly:

> Ulysses Grant was born on the banks of the Ohio, about twenty-five miles above Cincinnati, at the village of Point Pleasant, in the county of Clermont, on the 27th day of April, 1822. Consistency it is of little consequence who a man's ancestors were, even in this country, but it is all but as a matter of gratification to the curious, it may be recorded that Grant's grandfather, Noah Grant, commanded a company of *white and black men* in 1756, and fell at the battle of White Plains, and in his brother, Solomon Grant, the general's grandfather was a Lieutenant under Washington, and fought from the beginning to the end of the Revolutionary War. The father of General Grant was born in the State of Pennsylvania, on February 23, 1794, and is still living at Covington, Ky. He learned the tanning business with his half brother at Maysville, Ky., and in 1817 married Hannah Simpson, ant, Ohio, where he set up his trade, and soon afterward married Miss Hannah Simpson, the mother of General Grant, who is still living.

THE Philadelphia *Ledger* states that during the past year nearly all the glass factory owners of New Jersey were compelled to suspend operations or to run on part time. The majority of these factories are found on the sandy lands of West Jersey. Those at Jackson, Tansboro', Brooklyn, Medford, Batsto, Crowleyville, Bultown and Green Bank, in that section, are said to be all idle. Those at Glassboro', Clayton-Waterford, Winslow, Millville, Bridgeton, Temperanceville and Salem are running on part time, with the exception of three at the latter place, which are running on full time.

THE steamer Baltimore, the pioneer vessel in the Baltimore and Bremen line, will depart from Baltimore to-morrow. She will have a full cargo, consisting mainly of cotton, tobacco, rosin. The Baltimoreans are making much of the officers of the ship by feasting and toasting them twenty-four hours every day. Friday morning last the steamer was thrown open to the public, and it is estimated that at least twenty thousand persons visited her.

IT is supposed that the late sudden change of temperature proceeds from the "cold wall" of the Gulf Stream. Captain Sherburn, of the ship Gamecock, from Manilla, at New York, reports that while running westward in latitude 36.20, from the "cold wall" of the Gulf Stream, the temperature changed from 74 to 50, with every appearance of being on soundings, and that by correct observations he ascertained that the inner edge of the Gulf Stream was one hundred miles to the east of its usual drift along the land.

On the guilt of DONOVAN who was executed at York on Tuesday, there are serious doubts in the minds of many persons. He persisted in asserting his innocence, and the explanation he gave the circumstances which seemed to implicate him was extremely plausible.

THE Board of Claims will cease to examine and decide on claims against the State of Pennsylvania after the first of June next, when the business of the Board will be conducted under the direction of the Auditor General.

IT is represented that the New York Democratic leaders are aware of the delicacy of the "situation," are trying their best to harmonize matters. They advise, as a mere matter of policy, that the financial question be sunk altogether in the National Convention, as it is impossible that the East and West can agree. They admit that Mr. Belmont's position as a business agent for European bondholders is not a felicitous one in connection with his political associations here, but as his displacement now would have the effect of committing the party to that extent to Mr. Pendleton, they don't think it wise to take any definite action with reference to it. The Western Democracy are said clamorous (in a quiet way, so to speak) for the removal of Mr. August Belmont from the position he occupies in the National Democratic Executive Committee. Prominent Ohio and Illinois Democrats are here, using their influence to induce him to resign. They consider him a stumbling block in Mr. Pendleton's way, and as such a very good man to be rid of. But Mr. Belmont, it is probable, will not budge to oblige them.

A WASHINGTON dispatch says that the committee on coinage, weights and measures is anxious that Mr. Kelley, its chairman, shall urge the passage, at the earliest practical period, of his new coinage bill, which provides for a uniformity in the one, three and five cent pieces, instead of having so many varieties of these denominations, and it abolishes both the five and ten cent fractional currency. The mint has furnished specimens of the new coin, which are said to excite general admiration. The three and five cent coins are to remain at their present weight, while the one cent piece is to be smaller than the latest issues of one cent pieces. There will certainly be an advantage in getting rid of the small fractional currency, as these pieces, being from their value in most constant circulation among the dirtiest hands, soon become worn and filthy.

THE Legislature of Ohio, wherein the Democrats have a majority, it is understood will continue in session until after the question of impeachment is settled, in order that the majority may control the appointment to the vacancy created by the advancement of Senator Wade. This is an important matter—the possession of an office for nine months—and it must not be supposed that the great political party like the Democratic will shirk the responsibility. To permit the Governor to fill the vacancy, would be to promote directly the interests of the Radicals, and that they have pledged themselves not to do.

YOUNG MR. TYNG does not appear to care much for the reprimand the Bishop give him or the trial he underwent, for preaching in a Methodist meeting house in New Jersey. Last Sunday evening he preached in a Baptist meeting house in New York. Was this a repetition of the offense, or did he offend only in going into New Jersey to preach in a Methodist meeting house?

A curious case was lately decided in Ohio. A man offered to vote at an election, but the judges refused his ballot on the ground that he was a non-resident. The man's wife is an inmate of a lunatic asylum, and the intelligent judge decided that that was where his residence must be. He brought suit and recovered damages, however.

The capital stock of a German theater company in Philadelphia is fixed at $300,000, the greater part of which has been subscribed.

PERSONAL.

—Lieutenant General Sherman and General Sheridan was in Chicago on Monday *en route* to the Indian country via Omaha.

—Mr. Forrest has been forty-nine years on the stage; a great part of that time he was the acknowledged monarch of it, so that no blame can attach to him for failing now. He is sixty-seven or sixty-eight years old, and is racked with rheumatism.

—A letter from Presth says that the daughter of a man employed on the roads near that city, and who resided in a cottage between Alt-Ofen Uerem, has just confessed, in a fit of remorse, that in concert with her father she had committed not less than sixteen murders during the last ten years, for the purpose of robbing the their victims. Seven skeletons had already been discovered by the authorities, and information given by the young woman had led to the finding of nine others.

—The latest bit of Parision gossip is as follows: "The cure of Notre Dame de Lorette addressed his congregation—the most fashionable congregation in Paris—on Sunday last, and after scolding them for their stiff-neckedness, informed them that whoever should thenceforward attend the representation of a certain wicked play at the Theater Francais, called 'Paul Forestier,' should be excommunicated, the cure of the Madeleine having uttered a similar threat on the previous Sunday. M. Augier, the director of the Theater Francais, on hearing of the ban thus placed upon his establishment, is said to have replied: 'Very well, henceforward I shall decline to sell tickets of admission to my theater to whoever shall attend the representations at the Madeleine and at Notre Dame de Lorette.'"

—The funeral of King Ludwig, of Bavaria, was quite an epoch in the history of undertaking. The body was embalmed on Sunday, March 1, the process taking seven hours. On Wednesday there was an exposition in a *chapelle ardente*, which had been put up for the occasion. The saloon was entirely draped with black, decorated with silver trappings and tears. On the left was an altar fully vested, and above the cross was an "G," surmounted by a crown borne up by kneeling angels. At this altar a succession of masses were said from 6 A. M. till noon. The King reposed upon a bed of white satin, ornamented with gold arabesques, and his mustache was surmounted by a crown enveloped in crape, and at the foot was a large silver Latin cross. Above the door was a coat of arms also covered with crape. The King was dressed in a Marshal's uniform, and upon it were the Orders of Greece and stars which he possessed, and round his neck was the royal collar, and across it the ribbon of the Legion of Honor. His commander's sword was laid across his breast, and in his hand was the crucifix which he kissed just before his death. The railing was decorated with funeral lamps, and crowns woven out of camelias, roses, violets, lilacs, and other flowers. At his feet, fixed on a cushion, were the insignia of various foreign orders. Upon the left of the pillow was a Marshal's hat, with white plumes. Soldiers kept guard and stood before the altar.

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IMPEACHMENT!

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The Cross-Examination.

The first witness cross-examined was Burt Van Horn, member of the House from New York, who testified to a conversation at the first attempt of Thomas to get possession of the War Department. The cross-examination was conducted by Mr. Stanbery, and was deemed anything but dignified in its character. Every one seemed at a loss to discern a special object in it, nor was a single material fact brought out by the score or more of questions proposed. At last Stanbery became satisfied with his inquiries, when Mr. Van Horn in answer to a pointed question whether he had reported the conversation which took place, remarked that General Thomas did make use of an expression which had not been related. Mr. Stanbery evidently suspected that the witness had been keeping the matter in reserve, and attempted to evade calling for further information, but Mr. Butler, comprehending the situation at a glance, asked for an answer. When it was said General Thomas had informed Mr. Stanton, on entering, that he had no desire to have any unpleasantness between them.

The same state of affairs was developed on the cross-examination of Mr. Moorhead, of Pennsylvania, by Mr. Stanbery, upon the general footing of the same interview. Mr. Stanbery, evidently threw ridicule on the idea that Mr. Thomas went over the head of Secretary of the War Department, inquired of Mr. Moorhead in rather a sneering way, if General Thomas was armed. To this Mr. Moorhead replied that he was not noticed, but that the Almighty provided him with arms. This seemed to satisfy counsel for the present. Then Butler put the finishing touch to their style of cross-examining, by asking of the witness whether Thomas was masked.

A Point of Order.

The next witness put on the stand was Mr. Burleigh, of Dakota, who was called to testify to declarations made by Gen. Thomas at the house of Mrs. Lincoln, in which the latter's command was made on Stanton for the War Office. At this point Mr. Stanbery objected to the evidence pertaining to conversations of Gen. Thomas, and Mr. Butler went on to state what the managers expected to prove. Before he was about to state a portion of it definitely, Mr. Stanbery remarked "We object to that." Mr. Butler replied quickly, "then you object to matter you know nothing about," which raised quite a laugh on all sides at Stanbery's expense.

The Chief Justice at once decided Gen. Butler out of order. To this, Gen. Butler, on the part of the managers, objected, and Senator Drake objected partially. The question of order, to be decided after a brief legal discussion, which attracted the closest attention and created for a short time a deep sensation.

The Decision of Law Points.

The first impression of the large number present when Mr. Chase so promptly decided the first law point which came up, was that the stories in such general circulation about him during the few days he has been here, and But a full statement of his position showed that after all it might only turn on the construction of a rule, he holding that he had the right to decide these law points as they arose unless he should, by a vote of the Senate, decide which followed covered the ground of the Chief Justice's right to decide any question, and the argument of Messrs. Bingham Butler and Boutwell were remarkable as showing the masters to be over the pupils, as they themselves with all precedents in the trial of impeachment, both in this country and England. The bearing of the managers towards the Chief Justice was most respectful, but the arguments made against the points decided were very strong and pointed. When the vote was about to be taken. Mr. Wilson, of Massachusetts, moved the Senate retire. Very few questions, if necessary, had been decided, and have seemed like cutting off debate on the side of Mr. Chase, Senators reluctantly voted for Wilson's motion. It was not a party vote, Doolittle and Sanlsbury both voting against it, Mr. Wade declining to vote, and Mr. Chase absent. On the call of the yeas and nays the Senate was equally divided, and Mr. Chase voted in the affirmative, and at 3:15 the Senate retired.

The Secret Session.

The debate in Senate in secret session lasted three hours, and was in some respect of heated character. Mr. Chase defended his position in two speeches. Messrs. Howard, Conness, Thayer, Howard, Drake, Cameron and Conness, and upheld by Edmunds, Sherman, Williams, Fendricks, Buckalew, Johnson, Bayard, Davis and Henderson, though the latter held he had no right to decide now. Many Senators on the vote most directly bearing on the question was on two points made by Mr. Sumner. First, that Chase had no right to vote, and second, he had no right to announce any decisions or sign the decisions of the Senate. Upon the vote stood ayes 22; nays 26.

Mr. Ferry finally proposed to amend the rule covering the whole matter so as to make it exactly as the rule governing the case in which he drafted the rules to govern the trial and this was passed by 31 to 19. It allows the Chief Justice to decide all questions of law, unless Senators decide, by a vote of the Senate, and also allow the Chief Justice to put questions at once to a vote.

The House managers are inclined to take the sense of the House in the matter, and some further action regarding the matter is expected in the Senate.

The President's Witnesses.

The President's counsel have thus far had subpœnaes issued for the following witnesses: John Covington, of New York; Lewis Campbell, of Ohio; Bert. Able, of St. Louis; General W. T. Sherman, W. W. Armstrong

Weekly Commercial.

COAL MINERS' RIOT.

Sporate and Bloody Affray---Particulars of the Outrage---Testimony Before the Coroner's Jury.

We give a brief account in yesterday's issue of a riot which occurred on Monday at the Coal of John O'Neal & Son, located on the Monongahela river, four miles above Elizabeport, resulting in the death of one of the rioters and the killing of others, as received by a special telegram to the COMMERCIAL. Our reporter yesterday visited the scene of the riot, which is located near Coal Valley Schoolhouse, on Pine Run, in Jefferson township, and gathered the following particulars of the affray:

PARTICULARS OF THE RIOT.

It appears that some time since the coal miners in the Monongahela valley made a "strike" for ten cents a bushel for digging coal. The firm of John A. & Son refused to accede to their demands, claiming that they could not run their works at that rate. One night about a month ago a number of the "strikers" set fire to the check house attached to John O'Neal's coal works. The house has just been rebuilt at an expense of one thousand dollars. On Monday night last a note was found on the door of the office of Mr. O'Neal, stating that if he did not pay them as much per bushel for digging, they would not allow any more coal to be taken out of the mines for two or three nights, but none of the middle incendiaries troubled them. On Monday night last, Mr. O'Neal left about 8 o'clock in the evening for his residence at three and a half cents a bushel, and work immediately commenced in the mines, and continued about noon, when over two hundred of the strikers, who were principally from Six Mile Ford, in the vicinity of Elizabeport, and were headed by a man carrying a red flag and another beating a drum. They went to Mr. O'Neal's house and started towards the works, about a mile up Pine Run. The road in this part of the run is located on a hill above the main road, and is reached by a long, narrow road running from the top of the hill. The rioters did not come by this road, but proceeded to the foot of the hill, opposite Mr. O'Neal's house. When the man on the hill approached the brow and asked the crowd where they were going, the leader in the crowd replied that they were going to the works of John O'Neal's diggers, when one of the men asked him if all the miners were getting ten cents and a half a bushel. He replied that they were, whereupon several of the crowd turned to them "that they wanted to see Mr. O'Neal's diggers; the crowd then commenced to him and call him names; James Laughlin, one of Mr. O'Neal's diggers, was sitting on the bank, the crowd said they wanted to see him, and wanted to know what he was going to do. Laughlin replied that he was going to work, for, and he replied for three or four half cents a bushel. About this time the crowd then hallooed they "guessed he didn't." The crowd then got up around the top of the hill, where Mr. O'Neal's house stands, and the crowd followed them. The deceased had a pick handle in his hand, and he flourished in a menacing manner, with his pick handle. Mr. O'Neal's family then went over to the top of the hill which the crowd was ascending. Mr. O'Neal motioned to the crowd to go back. The crowd persisted in coming up the hill. Mr. O'Neal, one of his employees, procured a loaded double-barrelled gun, and, with the assistance of Mr. O'Neal, who had gone to the house of the hill, where he made part of the rioters were attempting to assend by the hollow; blows commenced between the parties on both sides, Mr. O'Neal and Mr. Hart using their attention to the hollow stated, the remainder of the party commenced to assend the rioters from the other part of the hill, although Mr. O'Neal's men were driven back to his own residence.

Four Frenchmen appeared to lead the rioters in the hollow, and when they reached near the top of the hill, the crowd followed with a hideous cheering and yelling, which could be heard a great distance around. On reaching the hill, Mr. O'Neal repeatedly warned them to go back, but they did not listen. As soon as the Frenchmen neared Mr. O'Neal the latter told them to stop, but they still kept on, when about a dozen shots were fired at him. Mr. O'Neal snapped his carbine at one of the foremost discharged, and, as he supposed, killed him. The Frenchman then wrested the gun from Mr. O'Neal, and the fight then commenced between him and the rioters. Just at this time another man, named Francis Bolger, came up the hill, and, observing the fight, rushed into the melee, and, seeing that the top of his head was off, and was in the act of striking Mr. Hart with a club, he was shot through the head, and fell dead. Hart then ran to the rescue of O'Neal, and a double-barrelled shot-gun at the men who were assaulting O'Neal. A tussle ensued, and the latter succeeded in wresting both the guns from the hands of the deceased and Frenchman, and, after Hart had fired. Heard the report of a shot, and looking around, saw the deceased fall. rowed then fell back towards the road.

TESTIMONY OF GEO. R. BEAM.

G. R. Beam, sworn—Work for Mr. O'Neal. Was working between the check house and the entrance of the riot. The witness here corroborated statement of Mr. King in regard to the commencement of the riot.] Witness continued: Saw John O'Neal fall, when I told Denny O'Neal, O'Neal's son, that instant I heard the report of a gun. Denny then started towards his father. Next I heard Denny was killed. Did not see the gun but see Denny before he got to his father account of the hills. Heard the report of a gun, and saw Denny fall. Before this saw Hart retreating from the dead, and heard Hart say that he killed the dead. He was flourishing a club at him. Saw Hart with his back turned shot gun in his hand. Do not know except those which John O'Neal and Hart fired.

After the deceased fell, the crowd retreated the hill. Heard other reports of guns, but those which Hart fired, which I supposed to be were. There were several of these shots, and now which party were using the revolvers. The occurred about one o'clock.

TESTIMONY OF DR. HERRON.

James A. Herron, sworn.—Am a physician. mined the deceased and found fifteen holes about breast and upper part of his breast; found the cavities severed; in my opinion death was caused ternal hemorrhage; two of the upper ribs were fractured; found no shot, but am sat that the holes were made by shot; five of the were in front, and the others were small; the large were either caused by buck shot or two small coming together.

TESTIMONY OF WM. HART.

Wm. Hart, sworn—Am in the employ of Mr. John O'Neal; have been acting as night-watchman for or a short time past; Mr. O'Neal took me up a pit yesterday to protect his property; had a double-barrelled shot-gun while there. The crowd came up the hill, when Mr. O'Neal warned them to stop, they were trespassing on his property, and that I would use violence if they did not. Mr. O'Neal then went down the hill. I saw Mr. O'Neal was getting in danger, and that the men were coming up. The next I saw was that Mr. O'Neal was knocked down, and that the men were coming up. The next I saw was that Mr. O'Neal was knocked down over him, beating him with clubs. The deceased up the hill. Mr. O'Neal was on the ground. I warned him to stay down. I then raised my gun, and was in my hand to fire, when I thinking that probably he could not understand what I said. The man was killed. I then fired over the crowd. The crowd then left the corner man hurt. The crowd still persisted in coming up. My gun was then used over me. They succeeded in wresting the gun from me, and used the butt end of the gun to knock me down with. They pursued me up the hill. I caught him by the neck and knocked him on the bank with my fist. The deceased came running over towards his father. The deceased then retreated down the hill, and I assisted O'Neal to the check house. That was the last I saw of the affray.

TESTIMONY OF MR. O'NEAL.

John O'Neal, sworn—Am owner of the coal works of the affray occurred yesterday. (The witness then described the disturbance of the day before, from the beginning of the affray. Witness continued: I first told them that they had burned my check-house, and that if they wanted to see me I would be at my house. They replied that they did not want to see me, but wanted to see my men. I told them I would shoot him if he came up. I then came up and caught the muzzle of the gun in four or five of the crowd's hands, with which he beat me terribly. Mr. Hart came to my assistance. Before this, he fired at a man and afterwards another. The crowd then wrested the gun from him. Before the shots were fired, parts of the crowd were coming up the hill on different roads. I believe, originated at Six Mile Ferry. On Thursday night a gentleman told me that he was up in my engine shop, stating that if we would pay him giving us that fourcents a bushel for digging coal they would hang the property down.

THE VERDICT.

No further evidence was elicited, and the jury, after due deliberation, returned the following verdict: That Francis Belger came to his death on the 30th of March, 1868, at O'Neal's Coal Works, in Jefferson township, Allegheny county, from the effects of gunshot wounds, and we believe that Alexander Boothby is guilty of the murder.

MR. HART DELIVERS HIMSELF UP.

Mr. Hart was called to testify, it being supposed that he had done the shooting which resulted fatally, he was cautioned not to criminate himself. After the rendition of the Coroner's jury, as mentioned, Mr. Hart delivered himself into the custody of Deputy Sheriff T. B. Cloley, who was present. Deputy Sheriff soon brought Mr. Hart to this city and lodged him in the county jail, where he now remains. The case will be speedily brought before the Grand Jury, which meets on Monday, and the general impression is that the killing of Belger, as Mr. Hart was justified in the killing of Belger, as Mr. Hart was justified in the killing of Belger, as the shooting in self-defence. Parties who witnessed the riot state that had not Belger been killed, he caused the rioters to retreat, in which case Mr. O'Neal's party would have been at the mercy of the rioters, and probably all killed.

INFORMATION AGAINST THE RIOTERS.

Denny O'Neal, son of Mr. John O'Neal, came to this city yesterday, and made information before Deputy Mayor Owston against about twenty of the rioters engaged in the riot. A posse of the Mayor's police were sent yesterday morning to Six Mile Ferry, but their appearance seemed to be the signal for the secreting of the rioters, and not one of them, save Freeman, the wounded man, was to be found. The police were compelled to return to the city without accomplishing their purpose, but they are on the alert and will secure the rioters in due time.

CONDITION OF THE INJURED PARTIES.

Mr. John O'Neal, who was so terribly beaten by the rioters, with clubs, is now living at the residence in Coal Valley village. On Monday night he was attended by Drs. Blackburn and McGrew. Yesterday, Dr. J. A. Herron, of this city, made an examination of his wounds, and found that he had been terribly beaten about the head and upper part of the body, one of the wounds nearly producing a fracture of the skull. Mr. O'Neal is now lying in a serious condition. It is feared that brain fever may set in and result fatally.

Peter Franchini, Fremont, is lying at his home at Six Mile Ferry, and is attended by Dr. Geo. McCook. He received a number of buckshot wounds in the left leg, near the hip, rendering necessitate an amputation of the leg and probably result fatally.

It is stated that another of the rioters was shot in the head, producing a severe wound.

REMOVAL OF BELGER'S BODY.

The body of Belger was removed yesterday afternoon to his late home at Six Mile Run. He came but recently from France, and was able to speak very little English. He has no relatives in this country. He was apparently about forty years of age.

MORE THREATENING DEMONSTRATIONS.

Yesterday afternoon a number of "strikers" appeared at Mr. O'Neal's premises, and commenced using very incendiary language, and left in a short time. Information, however, was received late in the time. All along the road, from McKeesport to Coal Valley, yesterday, squads of men were to be seen who were using incendiary language in reference to the course of the rioters. The peaceable citizens along the river are in constant fear of further demonstrations on the part of the rioters, and they will return and carry out their threats. The citizens are using every precaution, and intend to resist by force all riotous demonstrations.

LATER.

A rumor was extensively circulated yesterday that the coal miners riot had been resumed at O'Neal's works, at Coal Valley, and that four of the rioters were killed. The rumor originated in the fact that Denny O'Neal came to the city yesterday to secure the services of Detective Lowry to protect his father's property. It seems that Berger's funeral proceedings, comprising about one hundred and fifty persons, passed through the village yesterday on its way to the Elizabeport, where the deceased resided. While passing Mr. O'Neal's house, the rioters declared their intention of returning to the village during the night and burning the works. Fearing they might carry out their threats, Mr. O'Neal came to the city, and called upon Lowry for protection. A posse of thirty-five armed men, accompanied by several of the crowd, took passage on the steamer Gallatin at three o'clock, and proceeded to Coal Valley, where they were stationed on the premises and all was quiet.

Yesterday afternoon officer Stewart, of Elizabethtown, arrested one of the alleged rioters, and took him to the lock-up in this city. The officer and his prisoner were followed to the city by a number of others, who wanted to see what was to be done with their comrade. On arriving at the tombs they, too, were arrested with quarters, charged with participating in the riot. Later in the day, officers Wilmot and Kelly arrested two more of the rioters, and the rioters at the "Old House at Home," a tavern, situated at the corner of Grant and Water streets. The prisoners were all provided with comfortable quarters in the city lock-up. Six of those under arrest were Frenchmen, having been in the employ of the deceased previous to Mr. O'Neal's works, but deny that they participated in the riot in which Belger was killed. The parties under arrest who refused to give their names were employed in the Allisuippa, Blackburn and Reed Bank Works, on the Monongahela, and left Mine Ferry.

Early on the steamer Elisha Bennett, which left the wharf at five o'clock, was passing Brownstown last evening, a number of the rioters were known to be in a third miners, who wished to take passage for the scene of the riot. The Captain, however, did not heed their request, and passed on.

STATE NEWS.

Jonathan Whitney died at Drake's Mills, Crawford county, on the 27th inst., at the age of seventy-eight years. Mr. Whitney located in Meadville fifty-six years ago, and has ever since been an honored citizen of Crawford county.

James Black, Esq., President of the "Pennsylvania State Temperance Union," has appointed Rev. Pennell Coombe to preach and lecture on temperance in what is known as the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, being the counties lying east of Susquehanna river. It will be a part of his mission to form county Unions and local societies auxiliary to the State Union.

Solomon Landis, an old and respected citizen of Middletown, committed suicide on Sunday by shooting himself with a rifle. Mr. Landis had become recently involved in some difficulties, by which he was living at the residence of his son-in-law, Dr. Cook. He received a number of buckshot wounds in the left leg, near the hip, rendering necessitate an amputation of the leg and probably result fatally.

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, April 1st, 1868.

An active demand characterized the local money market to-day. Most of the discount houses have their compliment of bills receivable, and are not inclined to take any more this week even if it is gilt edged. The banks generally have got all snug, and do not care to do anything that may hazard their good condition on the 6th of this month, and are consequently holding on, doing nothing except for those whose claims are paramount to all ordinary considerations. Rates are consequently firm, and those who must have money are obliged to forego all prejudices in regard to charges, whenever they can find accommodation. To customers, however, where banks are in a condition to lend, the charges are generally fixed at the orthodox rate, with sufficient variations to suit the condition of the market.

—The New York *Financial Bulletin* remarks that Governments are quite dull and weak. There is a steady flow of bonds into the market, and as the Government refuses to pay over 105⅞ for seven-thirties, there is a disposition to put down the price so as to admit of the Government making purchases and thereby relieving the market.

—The New York stock market retains the increased activity of yesterday. Transactions are more evenly distributed over the list, and prices are generally strong. There is some disposition to get hold of stocks, in anticipation of a sharp upward movement after the banks have passed through the ordeal of the quarterly return. New York Central and Erie have ruled slightly below the closing figures of yesterday. In the miscellaneous list there is more movement. Western Union Telegraph, Quicksilver, and Union Navigation being especially active and firm.

The following table, as reported by J. W. Kennedy, broker, will show a comparative range of prices for the past week:

	March (26)	(27)	(28)	(30)	(31)	April
Fort Wayne	102	102	102¾	102¾	100¼	100
Cleveland & Pitts.	91	91¾	91¼	91⅜	91⅜	93¼
Erie	68¾	69¼	69	69¼	69¼	74¼
New York Central	118	119½	122	123¾	123⅜	122¾
Reading	90¼	90½	91	91	90¾	90¾
Michigan South	87⅜	88	88¾	90¼	90¼	90¾
Northwestern	63	63	63½	64	63½	63
Rock Island	91¾	92	92¾	93½	92¾	92

—The *Herald* of yesterday says: An artificial rise was engineered in the stock market by the cliques operating in Erie and New York Central, but as it is destined to "milk the street," there is not much temptation to buy at the advance from the sharpers who are pulling the wires with the sole object of fleecing the public and filling their own pockets. Erie continues to engross attention, but nothing new has transpired in relation to legislative or legal proceedings in the contest, except that Governor Ward, of New Jersey, has signed the bill giving corporate rights to the Erie Company in that State. This bill allows the company in question to "exercise all the powers and franchises of such company" within the State of New Jersey the same as in the State of New York, including the establishment of an office for the transfer of stock. It is probable, however, that the bill now pending in the Senate at Albany, legalizing the recent acts of the company, and permitting the issue of convertible bonds, as the necessities of the company may require, will pass; and meanwhile the injunction of Judge Ingraham, of the Supreme Court, prevents the receiver of the proceeds of the new stock, appointed by Judge Barnard from taking any action whatever under the receivership.

—James W. Kennedy has succeeded S. S. Bryan, Esq., in the Stock Commission business, at No. 80 Fourth street, in Apollo Building. Stocks, promissory notes, bonds, mortgages, &c., bought and sold. Loans negotiated at low rates on collaterals, such as sound dividend stocks. United States, Municipal, State or Railroad bonds. Being in direct telegraphic communication with the New York Stock Boards, when in session, he can execute orders for the purchase or sale of railroad stocks, Government securities, gold, &c., at the same rates and terms required by the brokers in that city.

WROUGHT IRON WELDED TUBES.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, April 4, 1868.

The following is the Manufacturers' Price List, subject to the customary discount:

Size.	Price.	Size.	Price.
Inside Diam.	Per Ft.	Inside Diam.	Per Ft.
⅛ black gas pipe	5	⅜ do	12
¼ do	8	½ do	18
⅜ do	8	¾ do	24
½ do	12	1 do	30
¾ do	15	1¼ do	40
1 do	20	1½ do	50
1¼ do	30	2 do	70
1½ do	40	2½ do	90
2 do	60	3 do	120
2½ do	80		
3 do	100		
3½ do	120		
4 do	140		
4½ do	160		
5 do	180		
6 do	220		
7 do	300		

PRICE LIST OF TOOLS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, April 4, 1868.

The following is the Card Price List of Tools, &c: One set complete 2½ inch joint and stud jack, $50. One set complete 2 inch joint and stud jack, $40. One set complete 2 inch joint and link jack, $30.

Improved grabs, $5@$10. Valve Sockets, $20. Head Blocks and Stud Jacks, $30@$40. Thimble straps, $3.00. Samson post iron, $45.

IRON TRADE.

NEW YORK.

The market for pig iron is reported, by the *Shipping List* of Saturday last, as quite dull, the demand for both Scotch and Anthracite being restricted to the immediate wants of consumers; prices, however, are supported, there being no disposition to press sales. We notice 300 tons Coltness Scotch and 100 tons Langloan American on terms not made public, and 300@400 do. No 1 American, including Allentown and Thomas, $39.00@40.00, for prompt delivery. Of other kinds, we notice 50 tons No 1 roughteargo at $47.50; 1,000 do. new English bars, at large rates; 1,000 tons steel rails, duty paid, for delivery at 60 tons double headed old rails, on terms we did not learn. Bar from store has not changed, but the tendency is upward. We hear of no further sales of invoices to note—indeed there are very few offering, dealers generally holding for their stock—50 packs Russia sheet sold on private terms—11¾ cents paid for No. 8's and 10.

PHILADELPHIA.

The demand for pig metal has fallen off, and prices are not so strong. We note sales of No 1at $38@39; No 2 at $36; and grey Forge at $34@37, including 900 tons the latter, delivered at Reading, and 500 tons to the latter quotation, deliverable here. Manufactured is quiet but firm. A sale of 300 tons old rails at $47, on 4 months' time, is reported. Blooms are dull and easier. Nails are selling in a small way at previous quotations.

IRONTON, OHIO.

We have little to notice in transactions in pig iron, further than a few small shipments amounting to 140 tons, and the receipt of 375 tons, by rail, wagon and river. The prices quoted below are simply nominal, and there is no disposition to operate, somewhat with a view of a decline, by the removal of the tax. We quote:

Pig for blast	$39.00@41.00
Foundry, hot blast	41.00@44.00
Mine, cold blast, No. 1 earwheel	50.00—cash
Prices of T. C. Jenkins, wholesale flour dealer, Checkered Front, No. 273 Liberty street:	
Dayton Snow Flake White winter	$ 12 50
White River Winter	12 00
Oregon Winter, Choice	12 00
Jenkins' Family and Extra Winter	11 50
Old Dominion Choice, extra Winter	11 00
Cresett's	10 50
Clark's	10 00
Medium Brands	9 00@10 00
Rye Flour	8 50

Sole agent for Crossett's and Ford's flour in this market.

Flours are active at quotations.

Orders promptly and conscientiously attended to.

N. B.—Beware of imitation brands of flour that are being put upon the market for genuine.

Groceries.

Coffee has advanced, and the gold price in the East is 26c for choice, and 18@19c for prime. Sugars have touched bottom, and if business improves, we may look for an advance in this article. Already refined sugars have advanced 4c ₱ lb. New Orleans molasses scarce, and in good demand. New crop Sugar-COFFEE—Old Government Java, in bags, 38c; in mats, 28c; Laguayra, 26@27c; Rio, choice 27c; prime, 26c; good, 23c; roasting, 20@23c.

SUGARS—Porto Rico, 14@15c; Cuba, 12¾@13½c; Sugar-House, 11½@12c; Granulated, 17½c; Powdered, 17½c; Crushed, 17½c; A Coffee, 16½c; B do, 16¼c; extra C, 16c; C 15½; New Orleans 14¾@16c; Demerara 15½@16c.

MOLASSES—New Orleans, 85@95c; Porto Rico, 70@80c; Cuba, 60@70c; Demerara, 80c.

SYRUP—Lovering's, $1.00; other choice brands, $1.00; fair to good, 90@85c; golden drops, $1.00.

TEAS—Young Hyson, common, 60c; finest, 90c@$1.25; Imperial and Gunpowder, $1.00@$1.25@$2.00; Japan, 90c@$1.25; Oolong, 90c@$1.75.

RICE—Carolina, 11½@13c; Rangoon, 10¼@11½c.

VINEGAR—Pure white wine vinegar, in original packages, 25c; common 25@30c.

FISH—No. 1 Shore Mackerel, $21; No. 2 Shore $17; No. 1 Bay do, $23; No. 2 Bay do, $17; No. 3 large do, $12 00; Lake Herring, $4 00; White Fish, $7 50. Cash, 5 ₱ cent. off.

SODA—English Bicarb 9c. American 8c.

SPICES—Pimento, 35c; Pepper, 38c; Cloves, 45c; Nutmegs, $1 60; Cassia, 90@95c.

SOAP—McKeon, Van Haagen & Co.'s Chemical Olive, 10c; Babbett's, 12¼c; Oakley's, 11½c.

LYE—Concentrated Lye, $7 25.

CANDLES—Proctor & Gamble's star candles, 26c for full weight; mould candles, ₱ lb, 18c.

LEAD—Madras 90c@$1 00; Manilla 95c@$1 45.

BAR LEAD—12½c.

DROP SHOT—13c.

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SOAP—McKeon, Van Haagen & Co.'s Chemical Olive, 10c; Babbett's, 12¼c; Oakley's, 11½c.

LYE—Concentrated Lye, $7 25.

CANDLES—Proctor & Gamble's star candles, 26c for full weight; mould candles, ₱ lb, 18c.

LEAD—Madras 90c@$1 00; Manilla 95c@$1 45.

BAR LEAD—12½c.

DROP SHOT—13c.

PETROLEUM.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, April 4, 1868.

BUSINESS—The oil market yesterday was not active—buyers appeared inclined to hold off and see whether lower figures would be established. The result was the market appeared weak, though the actual sales of any kind were light, only 1,000 bbls crude at 8¾c, and 500 bbls refined in bond S W on the spot at 24½c, 24¼@24½c early in the week and at the close at 25@25½c; 3,000 bbls S W, all March, at 25c; b o; 2,000 bbls S W, last half of April, at 25¼c, b o; 1,500 bbls S W do do do at 25¾c, b o; 1,000 bbls do do do at 26c, b o; 2,000 bbls S W, for May, at 26c, b o; 4,000 bbls S W, 60 bbls each month in 1868, to December at 26c, and advancing ½c each month, closing to-day at 27½@28c for S W in bond and 30@31c for Refiner's Pure. Crude is steady at 8¾@9c ₱ lb for prompt spot and 9c for forward options, but no further sales of consequence were reported. Refined in bond is steady at $32 ₱ ton, gold, for English, and $35 ₱ ton, gold, for Continental. Naphtha in bond steady at 15c, gold. Benzine is selling at 18@20c for English, and 21@22c for American. Crude is selling at 8¾@9c ₱ lb. Gasoline is constantly passing out of these vents in currents, and it is supposed that it as constantly passes in through the small pores, thus producing a very obscure motion of circulation. The mixture of these gases shows the entire vessel and even the sponge to be composed of fine tubes. As an animal it lives on the water, and what the water holds in solution, and therefore it is necessary that water should be considered the life principle to it. There are many species of sponge, differing in size, shape and texture. The bottle sponge, so called from its having the form of a bottle, is perhaps the most curious. Its absorbing pores are all on the outside, while its cavity is within, so that there is all the time a strong current pouring from the mouth of the bottle. Sponges are found in many parts of the world, but those produced in salt water and in warm climates are considered the most valuable. In some of the Greek islands the inhabitants make it a business to obtain them by diving. They adhere very firmly to the rocks and are detached with difficulty. When taken from the water they are covered with a gelatinous matter which is removed by washing. The mineral fragments are taken out either by beating the sponge till they are reduced to powder which passes off in the water, or by placing the sponge in a cask in which dissolvent that attacks it. When this process is finished it is ready for use. Sponges serve a great variety of useful purposes both in the arts and medicine, and contribute in a thousand ways to cleanliness and health.

A New Version of the Bible.

The Springfield (Mass.) *Republican* of March 26th states that Prof. H. B. Hackett, of the Baptist Theological Institution at Newton, has resigned his position therein order to go to New York to revise the Old Testament, under the auspices of the American Bible Union. The final revision of the New Testament was published by the Union about a year ago, and now the Old Testament is to come for revision under the critical eyes of a scholar made competent by learning and taste. Prof. Noyes, of Cambridge, is expecting to put to press in the course of the summer his translation of the New Testament, to be placed by the side of his well known and much esteemed translations of the Apocryphal and practical portions of the Old Testament. Prof. Noyes has a high reputation as a Hebrew scholar, and is equally at home in the Greek language.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF PITTSBURGH MARKETS.

OFFICE OF PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, April 2, 1868.

Pig Iron and Bloom Market.

There is less activity in crude irons: in prices, however, there is no change. The large sales of a fortnight ago have afforded consumers a temporary supply, yet, as the mills are generally operating, and stocks of standard forge irons in first hands comparatively small, holders are firm in their askings, believing that supplies of good forge irons are rather short than in excess of probable consumption. In foundry descriptions the demand continues light.

Blooms of strictly first quality are held rather more firmly.

We report the following sales:

Bituminous Coal Smelted from Lake Superior Ores.

200 tons grey forge delivered at Farmers' Rest.....$34 50—30 days
200 tons grey forge, to arrive.....36 00— 4 mos
100 tons open grey forge, deliverable at Rochester.....37 00— 4 mos
50 tons mottled grey forge, deliverable at Rochester.....37 00— 4 mos
30 tons medium, deliverable at Rochester.....35 75— 4 mos
30 tons medium, deliverable at Rochester.....36 40— 4 mos
500 tons medium, deliverable at Rochester.....36 65— 4 mos
1,000 tons common grey, deli

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1868.

TERMS:

One copy, per year.....$2 00
In clubs of twenty, per year.....1 50
One copy gratis to the getter-up of the club.

WAGES OF TEACHERS.

Even a superficial observer of our social system must be struck with certain features of it as strange and unsupported by obvious reasons. Indeed, these features are so numerous as to have filled some persons of philanthropic mind with disgust for civilization, and to have suggested the desirableness of reverting for a while to the supposed primitive condition of savagery, that society might be reorganized from the foundations. Without for a moment justifying such disgust, or recognizing the probable success of such a remedy, we may be fully convinced of the reality of the evils which are the subject of complaint, and of the expediency of trying to remove them. The subject of wages, for example, by whatever principles they are regulated, presents some puzzling eccentricities. It is easy to draw from political economy a reason why a piece of work performed equally well by a man and by a woman, should earn more money for the former than for the latter. It is, however, not easy to reconcile the fact with doctrines which, in a christian state, are quite as generally admitted to be both true and important, as are the principles of political economy. Take another instance. Certain kinds of manual labor which consist in manipulating and changing the form of gross matter, gain enormous profits for those engaged in them. We do not say that these laborers are too highly paid, but why is a man whose work is directed to the moulding and training of young minds, thought to be sufficiently paid by a tenth, or less, of the money given for the former kinds of toil? In both cases we must assume that the work is well done; in both cases it is a matter of the utmost importance that it should be well done. Another thing must also be taken into account. Whatever branch of industry, involving manual dexterity, be selected for comparison, no intelligent person, who reflects on the subject, will doubt that it exacts less preliminary training, less mental power, and less patience than are required to adequately perform the work of the educator.

The truth is that the general mind is much befogged in regard to this subject. What the handworker produces can be seen—and every one who has eyes, is able to form a judgment more or less correct in regard to the skill with which the article has been made. It is, too, an article deemed necessary either for use or ornament. It is needed, or at least wanted—and its maker can refuse to part with it—can submit it to the inspection of a more discriminating, or a more wealthy, or a more liberal purchaser—or he can destroy it. And the common appreciation of material things—social rivalries—delight in novelty and variety—and the thousand little motives which go to make up the interest and current of daily life, combine to place high prices on the productions of manual skill. On the other hand, the educator—assuming that he is perfectly qualified for his duties—works on generally in the dark—his processes are unseen—not being permitted to select his materials, they are often of bad quality, and even when they happen to be good, months sometimes pass away without manifest results. The deepest and most brilliant polish not seldom demands very long and patient toil to bring it out, and its brightness occasionally dazzles and blinds those whom the teacher most wishes to please. The purchaser sometimes fears that utility has been sacrificed to show, and that the glister is too bright for common wear. But oftener he is sure the glister was always there, and that mere time, not the wearisome labor of the educator has brought it to light. This, however, is hardly the most discouraging case to the trainer of the young. He, we fancy, is most depressed by the indifference of those who have no clear, or well defined notion either of the work to be done, or of the requisite qualifications for its accomplishment. There are few communities so enlightened as not to contain a considerable number of this class. They may be quite liberal in their views in regard to the remuneration of labor and as a motive to compensate services generously they may merely need a better knowledge of their toil and difficulty.

For these reasons and others which we have not space to specify, neither our teachers nor our preachers are, generally speaking, paid nearly in proportion either to the rates of mechanical labor, or to the value of their services.

A PARALLEL.

Some newspaper writer has noticed a parallel or a resemblance between Mr. JOHNSON and CHARLES I, of England. To which of the two the apology is due, or making such a comparison, we shall not undertake to decide. But a much more striking parallel to our misjudging and self-willed President is published in the history of a later English king—the famous and infamous JAMES II. On his accession to his brother's throne, a grand project of *reconstruction* took possession of his mind. He entered upon and prosecuted it with a consciousness of power and an obstinacy of will that spurned cautionary counsels. "My policy"—a phrase familar to our ears—would have been precisely the expression to signify the estimate he had of the grandeur of the work and of the glory—to be exclusively his own—of his scheme for effecting it.

No sooner had JAMES got hold of the power of government, than he undertook the great work of reconstructing the Roman Catholic religion; that is, of restoring it to political ascendency in England, and of bringing revolted England into allegiance to the Pope. His patronage was administered with direct reference to this design. Officers were removed and appointed, counsellors were rejected and chosen, measures were vetoed or approved with exclusive reference to "my policy." JAMES had, in the outset of his reign, a Parliament greatly inclined by their party preferences to support his authority. But he soon fell out with it, and for the rest of his miserable administration his great aim and effort were devoted to the purpose of getting one that would be obsequious to his wishes. He was of that peculiar disposition that opposition only seemed to inflame him with a more determined and reckless resolution to have his own way. Our President, though of a like disposition, was less fortunate in the Legislature which he had on his accession and as unfortunate in his endeavors to get one subservient to his will. The people, in both cases, saw it was proper and best to curb individual power when it betrayed a purpose to play selfish pranks, irrespective of their will and interests.

The troubles and perplexities of both these rulers were occasioned by similar causes. Each found his operations embarrassed by a *Test Oath*, required by law to be administered to questionable characters; both were encumbered by the adherence of a party that had made itself odious by its misdeeds; and most of all, both encountered the intelligent and stern opposition of a people jealous of their rights and liberties. A persistent course of conduct aside from the laws offensive to the people, left each of these rulers with only a small and unscrupulous minority around him, while the great body of both nations desired a change of rulers, and thereby a return of order, freedom and prosperity. Tired of the schemes of ambition and of the disorders and enmities generated or aggravated by them, the people of both countries desired and sought relief in a constitutional way. In England the bigoted and obstinate King sacrificed the respect of the great mass of his subjects. No body cared for him, except a few official parasites, and the few of the people who favored his reconstruction and his policy. Tories united with Whigs in their indifference and opposition. His hopes of the support of the army were sadly disappointed, and he was obliged, with the ignominy of his deeds, and the disappointment of his treacherous schemes weighing heavily on him, to abandon a post of power, of which he was totally unworthy.

Mr. JOHNSON, on his coming to the Presidency by the lamentable death of his predecessor, had a fair chance for one of the most important, successful and popular of all our Presidential administrations. He was the representative of a strong party, which was disposed to give him, in the execution of the laws, their cordial support, and also to look with leniency on his admitted delinquencies, both personal and official. In his constitutional sphere, he might with confidence have relied on the support and co-operation of Congress, in the work of reconstructing the Union. But the very chances of such glory seem to have dazzled him to blindness, and in the bewilderment of the lofty position to which he was so unexpectedly promoted, a latent ambition was developed, which was revived and fostered by the flatteries of an adverse party, and made the occasion of hindering instead of helping the work of reconstruction. Egotism and individuality undertook the work, obliging Congress, as the faithful representative of the people, to interpose the authority of law as a barrier to unlawful power. This only fretted an obstinate disposition, and enlisted for its encouragement the cajolements of an adverse party famishing for political ascendency, and the applauses of a section in which the flames of rebellion had but lately been extinguished by the blood of three hundred thousand loyal men. The conflict is still going on. The parties at issue are essentially but two—the President on the one side and the people on the other, as it was in England, between the King and his subjects. Justice and right, we hope, will mark the procedure and the decision. Human nature is uniform. History repeats itself.

AN INTERESTING CASE DISPOSED OF.

The application of Mr. GEORGE B. VASHON, a colored man, for admission to the Allegheny Bar, which had been some time pending, came up finally on Saturday, and was rejected. The proceedings will be found reported in another place. The opinion, which was delivered by Judge STOWE, and concurred in by his Associates, was based on the ground that the applicant had not complied with the rule of the Court, applicable in such cases to white and black, and that no reason had been shown why it should be relaxed in this instance. The question of color did not enter into the decision, although it had entered largely into the arguments *pro.* and *con.* before the Court, and was what gave the case its chief interest in the community. But Judge STOWE having decided the case, nibbled at the question of color when he said: "It would scarcely be consistent with the principles of justice we profess to administer, to exclude any one from practicing law simply upon the grounds of personal antipathy or prejudice, or from political considerations." A remark entirely sound, though gratuitous, the question having already been decided on the question of regularity. Having gone thus far, it would have been more to the point, had the Judge said squarely, "This Court holds that no man should be denied admission to this bar on account of the color of his skin," or the reverse, if that is what was the Court's opinion. Either this or the entire omission of the extra ambiguous phrases employed, apparently in deference to the interest which attached to the question on account of the applicant's color, would have been more satisfactory to that part of the community which has taken an interest in the question. If it was intended to decide the question of color at all, it should have been done squarely.

In the opinion of Judge STOWE, Judge STERRETT concurred. Judge MELLON, however, availed himself of the opportunity to go farther and into the question of color at length, and discuss extensively the question of races; and his remarks have something of novelty in them. He was opposed decidedly to colored lawyers here, though he was in favor of negroes becoming lawyers wherever they could practice among their own race, but he nevertheless took occasion to add that he was in favor of giving the negro equal rights and privileges "in the halls of Congress, where it can be done without detriment to either party." Without going into an examination of Judge MELLON's views, we will remark, that one cannot fail to be struck with their inapplicability to the question before the court. We think the conclusion will be general that his opinion was altogether an extraordinary performance.

CHURCH RATES.

The cable told us yesterday that the House of Commons, on the night of the 24th inst., passed a bill abolishing church rates. Some readers may not be aware that church rates have nothing to do with tithes, and that their abolition involves no serious embarrassment to the church by law established. The object of church rates is simply to maintain the church edifice in a state of repair, whereas the object of tithes is to maintain the parson or rector of the parish in garments, food, drink *curates* and all the other essentials of comfortable living. Rates for repairs are taxes imposed upon the parishioners by themselves assembled by their representatives in vestry. For many years, as all know, very lively controversies have flourished in nearly all the Parishes of England as to the legal right of collecting these rates, the the conditions of their imposition, and so forth. It would be easy to quote—in fact we find it rather difficult at this moment to abstain from unburdening our memory of—several verses from rather noted British poets, to illustrate the feeling with which these petty taxes have long been regarded by non-members of the establishment. We spare our readers, however. As long ago as 1842 old Dr. LUSHINGTON decided that a minority of a parish vestry possess no legal authority to levy a church rate. The case was brought before him from a place in Essex, of which the name is Braintree, and ever since the Braintree case, as it is called, has been frequently in the mouths of Dissenters all over the Island. Innumerable pamphlets have been written, innumerable speeches made, and the *Nonconformist* newspaper, throughout nearly its whole career, has kept up an almost continuous fire of logic, satire and invective against the odious Rates. About 1856 they were abolished by an act of the House of Commons, which was thrown out by the Lords, and the same thing has happened more than once since that time. It is now quite likely that the act of the current month reported by the cable will be confirmed by the Lords and by the Queen; and that in the future, Church Rates will be paid only by those who use the house, which they are loved to repair.

EMIGRATION SOUTHWARD.

Such seasons as the one through which we have just passed, can not but make thoughtful men give some consideration to the first principles of political economy. The question urges itself for discussion whether there is in the nature of things a necessity for periodical returns of the stringency and distress with which of late we have all been so familiar. If there is any way to broaden the basis of national prosperity and thus give it a more stable equilibrium, a thousand sacred interests, vital to our common humanity, clamor for the immediate evolution of the potent principle.

We have much faith in the view adopted by many, that important in their sphere as are questions relating to tariff, revenue and the like, the great matter with us is to increase the absolute production of wealth within our immense domain. Every acre of tillable soil represents a possible yearly income, and income, too, of substantial values. Men are easily deceived by the jugglery of trade and speculation, but the truth is that nothing is *made*, familiar as we are with the abuse of the word, unless there has come into existence or into a new form, that which now begins to conduce, or conduce more largely, in some way, to the advantage of the community. Warm the soil that last year gave forth only the wild flowers and grasses that fed the fires of Autumn, is made this year to yield bread or clothing, there is so much less of hunger and shivering to be set down in the year's account of human suffering.

We are largely an agricultural people. We are strong in the proportion that we are such. The farmer is as independent a man as lives; a nation of farmers need never let its Fourth of July celebration go out of use. More than this; the man who gives the greatest practicable variety to his farm operations and their products, is the most independent of his class. The analogy holds with a nation. It will not do to stake the well being of a whole people on the prosperity, from year to year, of a single branch of industry, however valuable. The more numerous the channels of national wealth, less the danger from occasional stoppages in any one of them.

We are glad then to notice the attention that is now given to the Southern States as an inviting field for agricultural enterprise. We shall never see there the prosperity of ten or fifteen years ago, until that part of our country has recovered from its paralysis. Information in regard to the prospects of emigrants in that direction, and the requisites for successful effort is now in eager request. There is something of romance in the interest with which we read of the tropical life and generous fruits of Florida, for example; and the enthusiasm of those who come thence and try their artistic powers in reproducing its scenes, is found to be contagious in the last degree.

We learn that it is greatly desired by worthy men there, that colonies of steady, intelligent men with their families, should make Florida their home. They could carry with them all the society they needed, their pastors and teachers, and taking up a large body of land, could form a community to their own liking. That they would be welcomed by the old citizens, we have the fullest and most satisfactory assurances. The man who could originate and successfully prosecute an enterprise of this sort, would have the gratitude of successive generations. He must have rare traits of character to deserve and command confidence in a matter involving such grave responsibility, but we must believe that such men can be found. Ten such men, sustained by an enlightened sentiment among the classes with whom they would operate, would do more than all the legislation of national, State or trades union congresses, to suppress the miseries of which, strikes and lockouts are at once the symptoms and the aggravation.

BALTIMORE'S NEW ERA.

The new Baltimore and Bremen steamship line threatens to be a formidable rival to the old lines. At the bottom of the enterprise is the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company. (Cannot Philadelphia induce the Pennsylvania Company to undertake something of the sort for her benefit?) Ten months ago Mr. GARRETT conceived the idea of making Baltimore the principal port and that road the principal road for the German emigants bound for the West. The result of his negotiations with the celebrated LLOYD Brothers was an agreement which is in the course of fulfilment. Two steamers, the *Baltimore* and *Berlin*, are already built, and if the enterprise succeeds two others will be built. The capital requisite for starting the enterprise was furnished, it is understood, in Europe, and was subscribed mainly through the representations of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company. The plan is that passengers can leave that great point of European exodus to this country—Bremen—by either of the steamers of the Baltimore and Bremen line, and be furnished at starting with through tickets to any point in the West at much cheaper rates than they can otherwise reach there, and with considerable economy as to time, provided they take the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The recent disenthralment of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad Company from the Pennsylvania Company, is not the least consideration in favor of this enterprise. Already Philadelphia is becoming sensible to the fact that Baltimore as a commercial city is shooting ahead of her.

THE evidence in the case of SHUGART vs. ROBISON, in the 21st Senatorial District of Pennsylvania, has brought to light the most stupendous frauds, systematically perpetrated, which have yet disgraced the history of this or any other country. These frauds, perpetrated seemingly—we might say absolutely—under the direction of the State Committee, of which Senator WALLACE is the Chairman, gave Judge SHARSWOOD the certificate which otherwise would have been given and which belongs to Judge WILLIAMS, the Republican nominee. This has been made as clear as sunlight, and all men will be convinced when the testimony is published. It has been made clear that Mr. SHUGART, Democrat, the sitting Senator, has no right to the seat, and that it belongs to Mr. ROBISON. Aware of this, the Democrats have, it is said, raised a large sum with which to corrupt Republican Senators, and retain Mr. SHUGART in his seat; and we may add that rumor is busy, not to say emphatic, as to the members of that body of whom they entertain great expectations. The freedom with which the names of Senators—two of them members of the committee—are used in this connection, either does them great injustice, or is the natural result of confidence which can spring only from a bargain fully entered into. The vote, when it comes to be taken, will decide this, and substitute fact for rumor, or prove that it was all rumor without a grain of fact. For that reason, if for no other, the vote will be awaited with interest.

JUDGING from what is in the air, if not from more tangible indications touching the Vice Presidency, we should say that the friends of Mr. COLFAX are beginning to have more faith in the nomination of their favorite, and not without reason. The canvass attracts almost as much attention at Washington as the impeachment question,—in fact, the one is but an outcome of the other, and the two go hand in hand, though not, perhaps, in perfect harmony. The friends of Mr. WADE profess great confidence, though it is suggested that of late something like a query has arisen in their minds, especially as the probability that the Southern States, which have been the ground of some part of the "great expectations," may not be represented, increases. The terms of the call for the National Convention contemplate the admission of delegates from States only which are represented in Congress. The South was at one time Mr. CHASE's reliance; but it vanished, and with him the hope of the Presidency also. And something of the sort may prove true in Mr. WADE's case. A Washington correspondent takes notes of the outlook there as follows:

"Colfax's friends claim that the delegates from Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin—fifty in all—with Cols. Stokes, of Tennessee, himself a delegate, says that a majority of that deegation are for him. The Republican Representatives from New England express the opinion that a majority of the delegates from that State are for Colfax. Colfax himself expresses no anxiety on this question, but tells all who talk with him about it, that the battle field lies in the doubtful States, and believes that whoever will add the most strength to the ticket will be nominated. He says that he shall heartily acquiesce in the adoption of that principle. Senator Wilson and Gov. Buckingham of Connecticut have powerful friends here, and I hear shrewd Senators and Representatives say that they shall not be surprised to see either of them nominated."

THERE are surface indications, as the oil men say, in favor of General MCCLELLAN as the Presidential candidate of the Democrats. BELMONT, who is a power in the premises, is said to be for him, and the general muddle into which the party is getting deeper every day, favor the plan which is said to be on foot for bringing him out—at the right moment, of course. In this connection it is said that the health of Mrs. MCCLELLAN is not expected to get better for two or three months yet, and it is said, furthermore, that it has been considerably affected by the designs attributed to BELMONT and others, for placing the General on the Presidential track.

THE withdrawal of JEREMIAH BLACK, as counsel in the President's case, is said to have a simple explanation. That he considered it sound and honest advice to resign, is not doubted, but the reason he gave it is the interesting part of the proceeding. About three years ago a guano island, known as Alta Vela, was discovered or taken possession of somewhere on the coast of Dominica, by some Baltimore parties, who laid claim to the ownership and engaged Mr. BLACK to assist in enforcing it. They had previously gone through the forms of occupation, but subsequently the Dominicans expelled the claimants, who were digging and shipping off the guano, and took possession themselves. Mr. BLACK's business was to induce Mr. JOHNSON to drive off the Dominicans with a national vessel, which the President refused to do, and it was conceived by Mr. BLACK that the case of his clients might be promoted before Congress by quarreling with the President, and so he quarreled and withdrew.

THE proceedings in the House of Representatives Saturday, possess a peculiar interest, the bill reported by the Reconstruction Commiitee, admitting Alabama to representation at once, to which Mr. STEVENS offered an amendment, declaring that suffrage shall forever be universal and impartial, being under consideration. Mr. WILLIAMS, of Pa., opposed the bill on the ground that he was not for forcing the "incorrigible delinquents into an association with those whom they hated under a government they had attempted to destroy." After a long and somewhat excited debate, in which Mr. STEVENS took part, and was opposed by BOUTWELL and others who have usually acted with him, the bill and Mr. STEVEN's amendment were voted down, and the substitute offered by Mr. SPALDING, of Ohio, providing that the State officers elected at the late election shall enter on their duties on the first of May, and for the formation of a Constitution which, when approved by the people and Congress, shall entitle the State to representation, was adopted. The vote on the bill thus amended was a strict party division, Mr. WILLIAMS not voting.

Who Are the Boudholders?

The New York *Evening Post* has ascertained by careful inquiry, that of the five richest men in New York city only two are holders of United States bonds, and these only to a very inconsiderable amount, and that among those who return incomes of over one hundred thousand dollars in New York and Brooklyn, about the same relative proportion of bondholders exists. On the other hand, the savings banks of New York hold forty-nine millions of bonds as investments for the funds of their depositors, the interest of which, deducting the expenses of the banks, is paid to 488,501 of the laboring men and women of New York semi-annually. Of the several classes of "aristocratic bondholders" whose money is thus invested, the largest in numbers are, first, domestic; second, laborers; third, seamstresses; fourth, clerks; fifth, tailors; sixth, waiters, and seventh, cartmen. A list of the occupations of the "bloated aristocrats" who receive the dividends of the 5-20 bonds, taken from one of the savings banks of the city, shows the following assortment: Artists, bakers, butchers, bar-tenders, blacksmiths, boarding-house keepers, boatmen, boiler makers, book binders, butchers, cartmen, coachmen, carpenters, clerks, domestics, engineers, farmers, fishermen, gardeners, hatters, masons, hucksters, junk dealers, laborers, milkmen, milliners, nurses, ostlers, peddlers, porters, plumbers, seamstresses, shoemakers, soldiers, tailors, tanners, washerwomen, waiters, and weavers.

The Life Insurance Companies of New York hold twenty millions of the bonds as security for the persons, in all parts of the country, who hold their polices, and the Fire Insurance Companies hold forty-six millions as security for their customers. A very large sum is held in the form of trust estates for the benefit of widows and orphans under order of the courts. Three hundred millions are held by the National Banks as security for their bill holders.

New Railroad Project in this State.

The act to incorporate the Bedford and Bridgeport Railroad Company, which is to connect with the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad, has passed both houses of the Legislature, and only wants the Governor's signature to become a law. The Bedford *Inquirer* of last week, in noticing the withdrawal of the "one man and a wheelbarrow" engaged in the construction of the "great Southern Pennsylvania and Connellsville Railroad," says of the Bedford and Bridgeport project:

"Already quite an amount of stock has been pledged towards constructing this road, and if we can interpret the determination of our citizens, it is that the road must be completed from Bedford to Bridgeport; and then good-by Philadelphia, we will be off for Pittsburgh. Our people are not to be longer seclusionists. We are that the Central is bestirring itself in favor of a railroad to Johnstown, or to Somerset. If the citizens of Somerset are dupes enough to go into a scheme of this kind for the benefit of the monopoly which is trying to fasten itself on this county, they are greater fools than we have ever before been willing to think them—and being Democrats will be willing to cheat them with being."

As has already been announced, a bill is before the Legislature authorizing the construction of a railroad from Brownsville to Greensburg, which is intended to cross the Youghiogheny river at or near Dawson's Station. The Uniontown *Standard* says:

"It is said the Pennsylvania Railroad offers to contribute $50,000 per mile towards its construction. While that road has all to gain and nothing to lose on the road, nothing could be got out of it towards a road like this from it, but now it has the anxious to injure and cripple it. It is a huge monster, and this is a Philadelphia, and stretches out its claws into every place where it can exhibit power for that city. In the meantime the Connellsville road has authority to make a road from this place to Brownsville, and we are told that it will make it. It seems to us our Brownsville friends would be well served by this proposed road as that to Greensburg, as it is as direct and best route to the seaboard is by the Connellsville road to Baltimore. We clearly think that the responsibility of the Pennsylvania road to this section of the State entitles it to the confidence of our people.

IN regard to the operation of the Bankrupt Law in the South, the returns indicate that bankrupts in that section have not availed themselves of the provisions of the law to any great extent. One of the objects for which the law was passed, as has been generally supposed, was to relieve debtors in the South, and that a large number have not taken advantage of it is perhaps due to the disordered condition of the country. On the first of January one hundred and twenty-four petitions had been brought in North Carolina; about the middle of that month thirty-one in Delaware and nine in Florida, and still later in the month forty-three in the District of Columbia. At the beginning of February there had been brought in Virginia but sixty-six; in Alabama up to the middle of December, about three hundred, and in Arkansas not far from the same number.

THE debt for which Mr. Train is now an inmate of Dublin Jail grew out of his railway projects awhile ago. He admits there was such a claim against him, but avers that he sent the money to pay it through the Bank of England long ago, and that if it is not paid it is the Bank's fault. He declares it to be his purpose not to do anything to release himself, and that they may keep him as long as it suits them. Other detainers have been sent from Liverpool and London. It is remarked that those who knew of the circumstances under which he left London, some years ago, have only wondered that this catastrophe has not occurred before; but it is probable that the parties waited in the hope of his venturing into England. The night after the arrest, Train's name was mentioned in a farce at the Queen's Theater in Dublin, when there was "an outburst of hissing and other signs of popular contempt."

REFERRING to the English in Abyssinia, a London letter says: "But there are English prisoners to be released elsewhere than in Abyssinia. Further down the coast a ship was lost two years ago, and crew and passengers are in possession or keeping of an African chief. A commissioner has just been appointed to attempt their rescue, but he has taken all the risk upon himself, so that in event of his being taken a prisoner, no expedition will be required to release him. Then there are a hundred British subjects—surgeons, engineers, &c., kept in Paraguay, who demand to be released. They are useful in the war going on so long, and so uselessly, but have got tired of it and want to get home. The British Government would be glad to unite with the American to end the war and release the prisoners.

AT the close of the present session of the Pennsylvania Legislature, the terms of the following Senators will expire: Browne, R., of Lawrence; Connell, R., of Philadelphia; Cowles, R., of M'Kean; Glatz, D., of York; Landon, R., of Bradford; M'Conaughy, R., of Adams; Ridgway, R., of Philadelphia; Shoemaker, R., of Luzerne; Wallace, D., of Clearfield; White, R., of Indiana, and Graham, R., of Allegheny—nine Republicans and two Democrats. All of the above gentlemen may not be returned, but there will be no change in the political representation.

IT is asserted that shortly succeeding the humiliating exhibition of himself by Andrew Johnson on the day of Mr. Lincoln's second inauguration, a caucus of Republican Senators was held, when the impeachment of Vice President Johnson was proposed. It is said, furthermore, that Senators Fessenden, Anthony and Sherman advocated the impeachment of Andrew Johnson, Vice President of the United States, for misdemeanor in office, and that the proposition was defeated after a strong speech of considerable length by Mr. Wade.

Give Fortune a Chance.

Now when the application of steam and electricity has brought the ends of the earth together, no portion of the earth is wholly uninteresting to us. Not only so, but every item of geographical knowledge may prove directly and practically useful. Who supposed a short time ago that any knowledge he might happen to possess concerning Alaska, was of any use? The East has always been interesting to cultivated minds, and information about it has also been useful as an aid to the comprehension of the Book upon which our civilization, as well as our religion is founded. And now, the close connection into which we have been brought with some of the Asiatic nations, imparts a certain interest to whatever we can learn about any of them. After no long time it may become almost as common for the young American to seek his fortune in the East as it is now to do so in the West. This expression reminds us that a few days ago, in a newspaper extract from a lately published book of travels in Asia, we saw the statement of a Hindoo complaint regarding British domination in India, which must have struck some readers as very strange and perhaps unintelligible. The complaint was that under English rule "fortune has no chance." To those who know tolerably well the character of the orientals and the state of society among them, the subject presents no obscurity. The idea perhaps exhibits one form of the popular notion of fatalism so widely prevalent in that portion of the world—that is fatalism modified by common sense and common experience. But the complaint means that under the foreign rule established in India, all things susceptible of such control, are regulated by general rules. Under the native princes individual fancy and caprice pull down the mighty and lift up the feeble. Long and faithful service affords no guarantee of continued prosperity, and the entire absence of both service and merit, is no barrier to the most exalted state and the most coveted dignities. In other words, the fictions of the Arabian Nights are oriental facts, and portray a condition of things which may still be seen in all those countries of Asia wherein ancient oriental ideas are permitted to become realities. Thirty years ago an American adventurer from Philadelphia was powerful in the dominions of Runjeet Singh, the ruler of the Sikhs. Thirteen years ago an illiterate French barber, who called himself General D'Orgoni, was almost absolute ruler of Burmah, as the favorite of the King. Even Egypt, whose rulers are commonly believed to be very much Europeanized in their ideas, still allows fortune to have a chance. The Court banker and head of one of the first mercantile houses in Alexandria, entered Egypt as a poverty-stricken dancing-master in the time of the late viceroy Said Pacha. Through the influence of some countrymen in Egypt the dancing master obtained an audience of the Pacha. His Highness was known to be rather deficient in the qualities which make the warrior. The Frenchman on being introduced, assuming a theatrical attitude, addressed him as "a most mighty hero whose fame and fortune in war threatened to eclipse the fame and fortune of the great Napoleon." The Pacha delighted—his weak point had been hit and he at once began to approach his courtiers for their failure to recognize in him the qualities which foreigners knew him to possess. The Frenchman's fortune was made: he received a lucrative appointment as dancing master to the harem, and became the daily companion of the Viceroy, while his wife became the intimate associate of the royal ladies. The Frenchman became very rich and is now, as stated above, the leading banker in Alexandria. And yet said Pacha was not a fool about ordinary matters—and even in this affair of the dancing master, he was, no doubt, applauded by all true, uncorrupted Orientals as exemplifying the chances of fortune.

This may seem to some a very trifling subject to write about. The justification is that multitudes think about and act upon the impressions in regard to the East which we have endeavored to illustrate. Perhaps hitherto not many Americans, but great numbers of English, French, Italians and even Germans, mostly uneducated men of ill regulated imaginations and ambitious temper go to Egypt and Asia in the hope of verifying the dreams of wealth and power suggested by some knowledge of the East. Most of them are disappointed. Even the East has changed, is changing—and probably in a few years more, its accessible regions will be so completely changed by intimate association with the West—that fortune will have little or no chance in any of them.

THE *Tribune* thinks the Republicans are as likely to nominate Pendleton as the Democrats Chase for the Presidency. There would be as much sense in the one case as the other, and there is more probability of the one than the other. The *Tribune* is a special admirer of the Chief Justice. Here is what it says of him:

A man whose whole life has been distinguished by extraordinary devotion to principle, whose integrity is a by-word, and whose fame as Secretary of the Illustrious successor of Marshall and Hamilton long after Seward and Sumner are forgotten, needs no defence from such a calumny as this. Mr. Chase has none, or have had, the honorable ambition to become the President of his country. But long as that ambition endured, one thing is certain—that the Democrats will long for him in vain.

THE Philadelphia *Inquirer*, referring to the celebration by the citizens of Baltimore of the arrival at Baltimore of the pioneer steamer of the new Bremen line, puts the following pertinent questions: "What has become of the merchants of Philadelphia? Are they willing to stand calmly by and see New York, Boston and Baltimore secure the trade of the old world without making an effort to bring at least a portion of it to our own port?"

BY a recent decision of the United States Supreme Court, deposits made in savings banks may be lawfully subjected to local taxation, even when those deposits have been invested and are held in the form of Government securities. Heretofore it has been supposed that the bank might deduct the amount of such securities from its other assets, and only pay taxes on the remainder; but this position having been contested in Connecticut, a case was made and carried to the Supreme Court, with the result above stated.

THE Washington correspondent of the Boston *Post* avers that "Seward's conduct is at the bottom of this unfortunate misunderstanding between Judge Black and the President. The correspondence may soon be published, and it will show that Seward's determination to protect, as Judge Black says, his thieving friends, necessitates the withdrawal of the latter from any participation in the President's defense."

THE following shows the relative totals of the foreign commerce at all the ports of the United States at three distinct periods, before and since the war:

Year.	In American Vessels.	In Foreign Vessels.
1857	$405,485,462	$131,139,904
1860	507,247,752	255,040,793
1867	296,870,188	377,027,752

CHICAGO is modest, and always has been. To prove this we quote the following from the *Times* of that city: "Chicago does not go to the world. The world comes to Chicago. Every town, everywhere, wishes a railroad to Chicago."

ENGLISH VIEWS OF FIRST-CLASS CARRIAGES ON AMERICAN RAILROADS.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* says: "The introduction of first-class carriages on an American Railway (between New Haven and New York), will doubtless become general in the United States. The idea of republican equality in railway traveling is very pretty in the abstract; but it happens that an invidious distinction between classes is a necessary concomitant of civilization. The railway cars in America, under the present system, are noisy, dirty, and uncomfortable in every way; but the sleeping cars are admirably arranged, and might be imitated to advantage on some of the continental lines."

SENATOR SHERMAN has ascertained that owing to the extravagant estimates made during the war for the army, there now remains—notwithstanding the absence of economy in the War Department until General Grant partially reformed it—the sum of $82,876,506 of unexpended balances, subject to the order of the Secretary. Of the one item for "collecting, drilling and organizing volunteers," there is $15,757,697 now in the Treasury, and there are other balances unexpended far larger than the sums which it is proposed to appropriate this year for the same purposes.

THE *American Artisan*, discoursing on improvements of building, says it is now proposed to furnish builders with ready-made walls and ceilings, in the form of slabs, to be used as a substitute for lath and plaster. These slabs are made of cane fibre, (the chief material obtained from the cane of the Southern canebrakes, by disintegration effected by the explosive force of steam, and costing about ten dollars a ton, which is mixed with clay, rosin, size and other cheap materials. The cane fibre is also made into paper of various kinds.

SUITS for libel against editors are growing unpopular and unprofitable. Last week, for her fifty thousand dollars' worth of libel, Mrs. Dean-Boker got nothing out of the *Sun*; for Myers's ten thousand dollars' worth he got nothing out of the Cincinnati *Commercial*; for Rosline Parloe's ten thousand dollars' worth he got nothing out of the *Nation*. It would seem from these precedents that persons holding valuable bills for libel should get them discounted before commencing suit.

THE TACKS CASE.—It has been judicially decided that the case of Commonwealth vs. Tacks, Schalk *et al.*, will be taken up for trial in the Court of Quarter Sessions of Philadelphia, on Tuesday, April 14th, which fact witnesses and others interested should bear in mind. The interest attached to this case is of such a character that the testimony is to be officially reported by a sworn phonographic reporter.

STATE NEWS.

—Mrs. Mary J. McCurdy, wife of Mr. Robert McCurdy, of Gettysburg, while attending to her domestic duties on the 17th inst., was stricken with apoplexy, and died on the Sunday following.

On the 16th inst., Mr. Daniel Butler, of Butler township, Adams county, was found lying dead in his farm-yard, having been seized with apoplexy. He was in the eighty-sixth year of his age.

Miss Lucy Dunham, of Corry, caught her foot in her hoops at the top of the stairs of the Petroleum Bank block, at Titusville, on Friday afternoon last, and feel headlong down the entire flight. She was taken up insensible, and medical aid summoned. Severe bruises were found about her head which caused concussion of the brain.

Mr. John Snavely, an old and respected citizen of Cornwall township, living half a mile from Independence, Lebanon county, was found suspended from the limb of a tree, near his residence, on Wednesday morning of last week. He was upwards of eighty years of age, and seems to have been much distressed in mind on account of having made arrangements through which he was to leave his old residence for another one.

The Bedford *Inquirer* says: "Isaac Shaffer, convicted of horse stealing we believe at September session, 1867, and sentenced to five years imprisonment in the Western Penitentiary, has been pardoned by the Governor, though less than five months of his term had expired. We understand efforts are being made to have executive clemency extended to others of the same class, from this county. Comment is unnecessary."

The Lebanon Valley Railroad Company have paid the heirs of S. Zingst, of Dauphin county, who was killed last fall on their road, the sum of $4,500.

Major Jacob Cresswell, of Cassville, Huntingdon county, died on Wednesday of last week from appoplexy, in the sixty-third year of his age.

The bill to compel railroad companies to fence their roads on both sides with a fence five feet high, has passed both branches of the Legislature, and only awaits the signature of the Governor to become a law.

While Mrs. Andrew Grove was returning homeward in a spring wagon with her husband and two children, in Penn township, Huntingdon county, on Friday last, she was thrown out of the vehicle through the horses taking fright, and instantly killed.

A destructive five occurred at Waterford Erie county, on Saturday. It was started in the barn of the Eagle Hotel, and before it could be extinguished it burned the old fort, or block house, and several other buildings. The losses are stated as follows: Capt. A. M. Judson, $2,000; Col. P. E. Judson, $1,000; R. Leslie, $1,500; J. S. King, $1,500. The Block House was the oldest French fort in this country, after that in Pittsburgh, and was built more than 120 years ago. It was visited by Washington in 1753, and its loss is regretted chiefly because of its historic associations. The fire was the work of an incendiary.

A most distressing accident occurred at Roquette mills, in Salem township, Westmoreland county, on Wednesday of last week, by which a man named Johnson, a teamster, aged about seventeen years, met his death. He was in the grist mill with a gun, shooting rats, and it is supposed that while among the sacks of grain the hammer was caught by one of them, discharging the contents into his face, and killing him almost instantly.

A Clark, Mercer county, correspondent of the COMMERCIAL writes: "The spring elections for Pymatuning township and Clarksville borough, Mercer county, Pa., resulted very gratifyingly to every Union man and blasted the hopes of the Copperheads, as they usually go the other way."

Dr. D. S. Peffer, a prominent physician of Abbottstown, Adams county, has been laboring under mental derangement for some time, but it was not thought necessary to confine him. Last Tuesday night, in a paroxysm of insanity, he made an assault upon Cole, who was sleeping at his house, and crushed his skull with a heavy washbowl so that he died the next day. The Doctor has been confined in the Adams county jail.

It is said that desertions from Carlisle Barracks are of common occurrence.

Ex-State Senator J. B. Stark has gone into the hotel business at Wilkesbarre, and ex-Representative Frederick Kurtz is about starting a paper at Centre Hall, Centre county.

Albert W. Markley, a native of Lancaster county, is now the acting President of the Camden and Amboy Railroad, one of the largest Railroad corporations in the United States.

The following sentences were passed in the Warren County Court, last week, on convicted abortionists: Dr. Russell, $50 fine and costs, and two and one-half year's imprisonment in the Western Penitentiary; Dr. Hays, five dollars fine and costs, and two years' imprisonment.

The Uniontown *Standard* has changed hands, and is now published by W. H. Miller, Mr. Jas. G. Johnston having retired. Jacob B. Miller, Esq., who commenced the paper in 1827, is again the owner of the establishment, and will assist in its editorial management.

The cattle disease in Montgomery county has been quite bad in Upper Providence township during the past few weeks. Abraham Hunsicker Jr., lost five cows; Emanuel Longacre five, and William Fryer, three. Other farmers in the neighborhood have met with losses of stock from the disease.

Colonel William Allebaugh, Republican, was elected Chief Burgess of Norristown on Friday, 59th inst., by thirteen majority—a gain of 101 Republican votes over last year. In the town council, composed of fifteen members,